# NOTES

ON THE PARISHES OF

# FYFIELD, KIMPTON, PENTON MEWSEY, WEYHILL & WHERWELL

REV. R. H. CLUTTERBUCK F.S.A.

RICHARD SAWYER'S

CHERCHE ET TU TROUVERAS

COLLECTION OF BOOKS AND PAPERS

WITHDRAWN FROM
LIBRARY

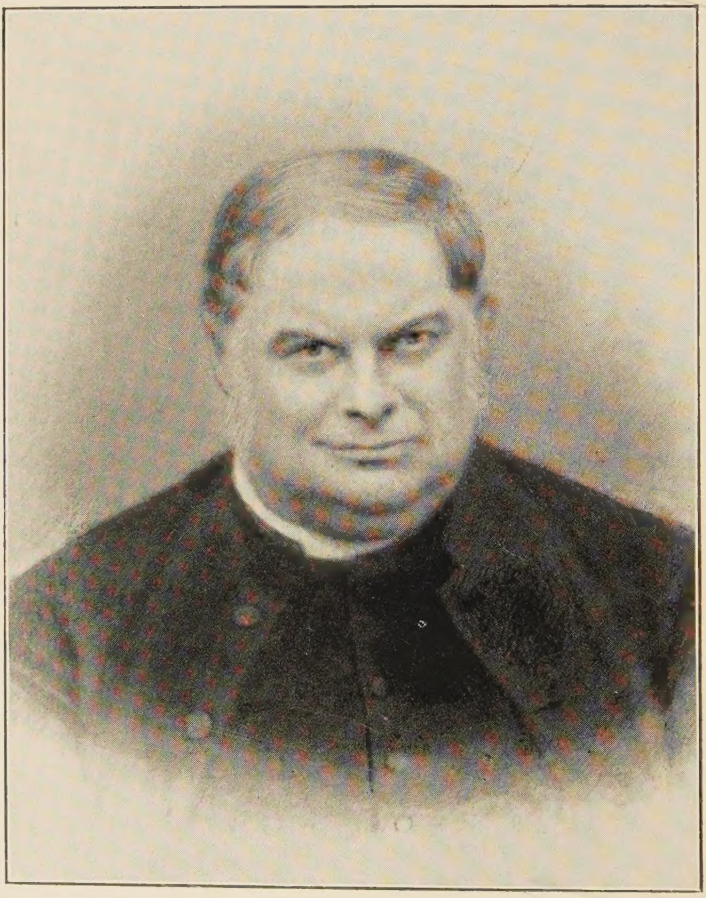
Presented to
SOMBORNE AND DISTRICT SOCIETY
1998

on loan to
KING ALFRED'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF
WINCHESTER

KA 0219138 5

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2025

https://archive.org/details/bwb_KV-420-303



# NOTES

ON THE PARISHES OF

## FYFIELD, KIMPTON, PENTON MEWSEY, WEYHILL AND WHERWELL,

IN THE

COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE

BY

The Rev. Robert Hawley Clutterbuck, F.S.A.,

REVISED AND EDITED BY

EDWARD DORAN WEBB, F.S.A.

SALISBURY:
BENNETT BROTHERS, PRINTERS, JOURNAL OFFICE.

1898.

COPYRIGHT.

## CONTENTS.


| | PAGE. |
|---|---|
| List of Subscribers ... ... ... ... ... ... | iii |
| Preface ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | vi |
| Chapter I.—Fifield and Some of Its Associations ... | 1 |
| „ II.—Kimpton ... ... ... ... ... ... | 52 |
| „ III.—Weyhill ... ... ... ... ... | 84 |
| „ IV.—The Story of Wherwell Abbey ... | 152 |
| „ V.—Penton Mewsey ... ... ... ... | 188 |


## ILLUSTRATIONS.


| | Facing Title |
|---|---|
| Portrait of the Author ... ... ... | |
| Frontispiece, Anna Valley from Bury Hill ... ... | 1 |
| Fifield Church ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Parson White's House at Fifield ... ... ... | 9 |
| Kimpton Church ... ... ... ... ... ... | 52 |
| Plan of the Site of Wherwell Abbey ... ... ... | 152 |
| Penton Mewsey Church ... ... ... ... ... | 188 |
| Bell found at Penton Mewsey July, 1845 ... ... | 192 |



KING ALFRED'S COLLEGE
WINCHESTER
942 02191385
2732
CLU

## LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

| | COPIES. |
|---|---|
| Abram, G. S., Esq., 106, London Road, Reading ... ... | 1 |
| Abram, E. A., 45, Greencroft Gardens ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Atterbury, Mrs. K. L. St. Moritz, Cranes Park, Surbiton ... | 4 |
| Awdry, Rev. W. H., Ludgershall, Andover ... ... ... | 1 |
| Bailey, W., Esq., London Hospital, E. ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Baker, Rev. Dr., Merchant Taylors' School, London, E.C. ... | 1 |
| Ball, Rev. J., Harland Rise, Glebe Avenue, Enfield ... ... | 1 |
| Beach, W. W., Esq., M.P., Oakley Manor, Basingstoke ... | 1 |
| Beddington, H. M., Esq., 8, Cromwell Terrace, Regent's Park, W. | 2 |
| Bennett, F. J., Esq., F.G.S., Belle Vue, London Road, Salishury | 1 |
| Best, Mrs., Abbotts Ann, Andover ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Bird, Arthur, Esq., 6, Bedford Row ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Bird, A. H., Esq., 2, Kelfield Gardens, North Kensington, W. | 1 |
| Bird, S., Esq., 20, Bedford Street, Covent Garden, W.C. ... | 1 |
| Bird, S. J., Esq., Upper Grange Road ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Bird, W., Esq., 24, Wynnstay Gardens, Kensington, W. .. | 1 |
| Bridge, Mrs. M., 44, St. James' Square, Notting Hill, London ... | 1 |
| Brown, G. S., Esq., 17, Cheyne Gardens, Chelsea, S.W. ... | 1 |
| Brown, St. John, Esq., 26, Percy Circus, London, W.C. ... | 1 |
| Buckman, P., Esq., 8, Portland Place, West Kensington ... | 1 |
| Butt, Mrs., Finkley, Andover ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Chalke, Mrs. R. J., Inveresk, Bournemouth ... ... .. | 1 |
| Clark, E., Esq., Western Lodge, Andover ... ... ... | 1 |
| Clutterbuck, A. W., Esq., 230, Finchley Road, London ... | 3 |
| Cokayne, G. E., Esq., College of Arms, London, E.C. ... | 3 |
| Coles, Rev. E. T., Knight's Enham Rectory, Andover ... | 1 |
| Cotton, Miss A. O. R, 21, East Park, Southampton ... ... | 1 |
| Crews, C. T. D., Esq., Billingbear, Wokingham, Berks ... | 6 |
| Dickens, H., Esq., Atterstone, Eton Avenue ... ... ... | 2 |
| Dickenson, Rev. C. R. Penton Mewsey Rectory, Andover ... | 1 |
| Dorling, Rev. E. E., The Close, Salisbury ... ... ... | 1 |
| Dudley, J., Esq., Mayfield, Cheriton, Hants ... ... ... | 1 |
| Durham, The Very Rev. The Dean of, The Deanery, Durham ... | 1 |
| Edmeades, Rev. W. R., Great Bedwin, Hungerford, Wilts ... | 1 |
| Freeman, Commander F. Williams, United Service Club, Pall Mall ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Freeman, J. P. Williams, Esq., M.D., Weyhill, Andover ... | 1 |

| | COPIES. |
|---|---|
| Goddard, Miss, Lower Froyle, Alton, Hants ... ... ... | 1 |
| Grellier, Mrs. A., Downside, Epsom, Surrey ... ... ... | 1 |
| Grellier, W., Esq., Beddington Gardens, Wallington, Surrey ... | 3 |
| Hale, Mrs., Hillside, Andover ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Hall, Mrs., Brathay House, Tunbridge, Wells ... ... ... | 1 |
| Hammans, H., Esq., Clatford Lodge, Andover ... ... ... | 2 |
| Hammond, John J., Esq., Mitre House, Salisbury ... ... | 1 |
| Harmar, Colonel, Ramridge, Andover ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Heathcote, J. A., Esq., Stock Exchange, London, E.C. ... | 1 |
| Hindson, Rev. J. H., Finkley House, Andover ... ... ... | 1 |
| Hoare, Sir Henry, Bart., Stourhead, Bath ... ... ... | 1 |
| Holbrooke, Rev. F. G., Kimpton Rectory, Andover ... ... | 1 |
| Holbrooke, Mrs., Kimpton Rectory, Andover ... ... ... | 1 |
| Jerrett, T. R., Esq., East Dean, Salisbury ... ... ... | 1 |
| Keyser, C. E., Esq., F.S.A., Aldermaston Court, Reading ... | 1 |
| Kidstone, Rev. J. W., Weyhill Rectory, Andover ... ... | 1 |
| Kingsbury, Rev. Canon, Salisbury ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Knatchbull, Miss, Appleshaw, Andover ... ... ... | 2 |
| Lugg, T. W. H., Esq., 53, St. James' Road, Bermondsey ... | 1 |
| Lush, Mrs. K. M., 52, Lower Sloane Street ... ... ... | 1 |
| Mansfield, A., Esq., 9, Park Hill, Ealing, W. ... ... ... | 1 |
| Mansfield, H., Esq., Firwood, Frans Road, Tunbridge Wells ... | 2 |
| Mansfield, Mrs., 50, Coombe Road, Croydon, Surrey ... ... | 1 |
| Marling, Sir William, Bart., Stanley Park, Stroud, Gloucester | 1 |
| Marsland, E., Esq., 73, Sydenham Hill, S.E. ... ... ... | 1 |
| Marsland, J., Esq., Elmside, Newlands Park, Sydenham, S.E. | 1 |
| Menzies, E. St. John, Esq., 2, The Grove, Hammersmith, W. ... | 15 |
| Merceron, H., Esq., 60, Leinster Square, London ... ... | 1 |
| Mills, Miss E., 17, London Street, Andover ... ... ... | 3 |
| Milman, W., Esq., Clatford Manor, Andover ... ... ... | 1 |
| Moreland, J. B., Esq., Youlgreave, Beckenham, Kent ... ... | 3 |
| Moreland, R., Esq., Highbury Gardens, London, N. ... ... | 1 |
| Munday, J. A., Esq., The Laurels, Winchester ... ... ... | 1 |
| Newcastle, the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of, Bishop's Court, Morpeth, New South Wales ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Newman, Mrs. C., 10, Saville Row, W. ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Newman, P. H., Esq., 21, Endsleigh Gardens, London, N.W. ... | 2 |
| Norris, C., Esq., F.R.G.S., Rokeby, Putney, London, S.W. ... | 1 |
| Paravicini, Rev. F. de, Grateley Rectory, Andover ... ... | 1 |
| Phillimore, W. P. W., Esq., 124, Chancery Lane, London, S.W. | 1 |
| Poore, G. V., Esq., F.R.C.S., Neville Lodge, Woodlands, Isleworth, S.W. ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Poore, Miss M. J., Priory Lodge, Andover ... ... ... | 1 |
| Poore, P. H., Esq., Highfield, Andover ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Portal, Wyndham S., Esq., Malshanger, Basingstoke ... ... | 1 |

COPIES.

Portal, W. W., Esq., Southington, Overton, Hants ... ... 1
Powney, C., Esq., Fyfield House, Andover ... ... ... 2
Prior, Rev. E. E., Charlton Rectory, Oxford ... ... ... 1
Radcliffe, Rev. H. E. Delmé, South Tedworth Rectory, Marlborough ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 1
Randolph, C. F. Esq., Kimpton Lodge, Andover ... ... 1
Ravenhill, W. W., Esq., Medbourne House, Surbiton Hill, Surrey 2
Reeson, J., Esq,, 68, Holland Park Avenue, London, W. ... 1
Reynolds, Rev. E. K., Fyfield Rectory, Andover ... ... 1
Richardson, Rev. P. J., Seaton Vicarage, East Devon ... ... 1
Rider, T. F., Esq., Stanstead House, Durand Gardens, Stockwell, S.W. ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 1
Robbins, J. B., Esq., Millway Lodge, Andover ... ... ... 1
Routh, R. A., Esq., Amport, Hants ... ... ... ... 1
Rowden, Mrs., Hafod, Gordon Road, Ealing, W. ... ... 1
Rycroft, Lady Dorothea, Dummer House, Basingstoke ... . 1
Sanger, Miss, 36, Doughty Street, London, W.C. ... ... 1
Sheehy, Mrs. S., 39, Great Percy Street, London, W.C. ... 1
Simonds, H. A., Esq., Red Rice, Andover ... ... ... 1
Simms, Mrs., 5, Dean Road, Andover ... ... ... ... 1
Sion College Library, London, E.C. ... ... ... 1
Slee. Mrs. H., Knowle Green House, Staines ... ... ... 6
Slee, F. E., Esq., B.C.L., Knowle Green House, Staines ... 1
Smith, J., Esq., Weyhill, Andover ... ... ... ... ... 2
Stamford, the Right Hon. the Earl of, 15, St. James' Place, London, S.W. ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 1
Steedman, Mrs. A., Ramridge Cottage, Andover ... ... 1
Stockey, Rev. W. F., Chaplain's House, Pentonville Prison, N. 1
Straton, C. R., Esq., West Lodge, Wilton, Salisbury ... .. 1
Sutton, Lady Evelyn, 18, Curzon Street, London ... ... 1
Tarner, G., Esq., 35, High Street, Marylebone, W. ... ... 2
Veitch, J. L., Esq., Salisbury ... ... ... ... ... 1
Wakeman, Mrs., 20, Great Percy Street, London, W.C. ... 3
Ward, J. B., Esq., Beaufort Lodge, Streatham Common ... 1
Washington, Miss, 20, Addison Road, North Kensington, W. 1
Wilkinson, Rev. R. P., Longparish Vicarage, Hants ... ... 1
Wilson, Rev. Sumner, Preston Candover Vicarage, Basingstoke 1
Wooldridge, J. H., Esq., Canal Wharf, Hungerford .. ... 1
Yates, E., Esq., Ivyhurst, Half Moon Lane, Dulwich, Kent ... 1

# PREFACE.

The Rev. Robert Hawley Clutterbuck, the second son of Charles Clutterbuck, citizen and draper of London, and Hannah his wife, was born on the first day of January, 1837, and was, therefore, at the time he passed away, August the tenth, 1896, in his sixtieth year. Mr. Clutterbuck came of an old Gloucestershire family, their principal house was at King's Stanley in that county, whose members were among the chief cloth workers of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and whose "cloth mark" is still to be seen on the doorway of a house called "Town's end" at Leonard Stanley; the Arms of Clutterbuck are:—Azure, a lion rampant argent, in chief three escallops of the second. Crest:—A buck sejant, between two sprigs of laurel.

Mr. Clutterbuck was ordained priest in 1864 by the Bishop of London, and after serving as curate at Plaistow, Essex, from 1864 to 1866, and at St. Mark's, Clerkenwell, from 1866 to 1867, was instituted to the living of St. Philip's, Clerkenwell; in 1880 he became St. Antholin's lecturer at St. Mary Aldermanbury, City of London. Failing health brought on by overwork caused him, when the opportunity offered itself, to leave London, and in 1882 he became Rector of Knight's Enham, Hants, from whence he removed in 1890 to the neighbouring living of Penton Mewsey.

Mr. Clutterbuck was twice married; by his first wife Harriet, daughter of George Washington, Esq., who died May, 1875, he leaves one son and three daughters, he married secondly Marianna, daughter of Thomas Hyett Mansfield, Esq., who survives him.

Mr. Clutterbuck was the author of many pamphlets mostly relating to antiquarian matters, in which he took a great interest. He was a frequent contributor on such subjects to the columns of the local newspapers, and articles by him have appeared from time to time in the Journals of the British Archæological Association, the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society, the Wiltshire Archæological Society, the Hampshire Field Club, and the Salisbury Field Club. On March the tenth, 1892, he was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries; he was also a Vice-President of the Hampshire and Salisbury Field Clubs, and in May, 1896, had been elected on the Committee of the Salisbury and South Wilts Museums, where he had several times lectured.

Mr. Clutterbuck's last appearance in public was at Salisbury on July the fourteenth, 1896, when he delivered an address on "Fraternities" to the Members of the Wiltshire Archæological Society on the occasion of their visit to that city.

In all things that concerned the past history of the border parishes of Hampshire and Wiltshire, Mr. Clutterbuck was a perfect mine of information, and he had a way of imparting his knowledge to others in such a manner that his addresses at archæological meetings were always looked forward to by his many friends with great interest, and his cheery presence was certain to ensure the success of the dullest programme.

A keen antiquary with a wonderful knowledge of manuscript Mr. Clutterbuck had been employing the little amount of leisure time at his disposal in deciphering and printing the ancient borough records of Andover; he had also nearly completed a transcript of the Black Book of Southampton for the Hampshire Record Society. It was Mr. Clutterbuck's intention, had he lived, to have published an account of the villages in the neighbourhood of Penton Mewsey, and with

this object in view he had contributed to the Andover Advertiser and the Hampshire Observer articles on the history and antiquities of Fyfield, Kimpton, Weyhill and Wherwell, these articles, with the addition of some notes on Penton Mewsey, never before printed, the writer of this Preface has, at the wish of Mr. Clutterbuck's family, re-arranged and edited in their present form in the hope that they will serve as a memorial, however slight, of one who did such good work for the history of not only Hampshire but also of our own county.

Wiltshire has lost in Mr. Clutterbuck an antiquary whose wide knowledge of the study that he took so great an interest in was always at the disposal of others. Speaking personally of him, who now rests at Penton Mewsey in the quiet churchyard which surrounds the village church that he loved so well, I would like to add that, a kinder man, a truer friend, it would be impossible to find, were one to search the wide world over.

EDWARD DORAN WEBB.

Salisbury, July 1st, 1898.

Anna Valley from Bury Hill.

# FIFIELD AND SOME OF ITS ASSOCIATIONS.

There can be no doubt as to the place The Village takes in English literature. Many of the choicest of our classics have it for their theme, and there are few English writings that are better known or better loved than those which describe "country scenery and country manners as they exist in a small village in the South of England." I have quoted this expression from one of the most precious examples of these writings—Miss Mitford's "Our Village;" and I own to a strong temptation to claim Miss Mitford as a Hampshire authoress, for she lived for some time at Ashe, where her grandfather, Dr. Russell, was rector for fifty-four years. Curiously enough Miss Jane Austen's parents resided in the immediate neighbourhood at the same time, so that these two popular writers must have been intimately acquainted with each other at their Hampshire home. We know Miss Mitford drew her life-like pictures from a "Berkshire hamlet," but my object in mentioning her is partly to attract attention to the very distinctly typical character of the villages of the valley of the Anton, and partly to take advantage of her association of the ideal enjoyment of such rural spots with another of those English, thoroughly English, books, which can never lose their charm. Very little apology is needed for giving the passage as it stands—"Nothing is so delightful as to sit down in a country village in one of Miss Austen's delicious novels, quite sure before we leave it to become intimate with every spot, and every person it contains, or to ramble with Mr. White over his own parish of Selborne, and form a friendship with the fields and coppices, as well as with the birds, mice and squirrels that inhabit them." If now, for the name Selborne I may substitute Fyfield, I shall have all the introduction I want for the remarks I have to offer. But, at the risk of spoiling the effect of Miss Mitford's pleasant rippling words, I shall venture to make an addition to this introduction; and this time to ask for notice of the remarkable

completeness of the individuality of the villages of our valley. Contenting ourselves with the quiet home-like scenery of the Upper Chalk, I doubt if any district could excel the typical beauty of the separate village. Each perhaps has its own particular feature, which is retained in the memory, but they stand one by one complete, and yet lending themselves to a harmony which is remarkable. Take a position on one of the higher points and note the spots—for you don't see much of the villages themselves from any distance—where nestle Thruxton, Monxton, Fyfield, Kimpton, Penton, Enham, Quarley, Amport, or Grateley ; or though not so clearly distinct perhaps, Abbotts Ann and Goodworth Clatford. The beauty has other features than merely the picturesque. It is the beauty of realised history, the old tale of the past ever being told before our eyes. As you tell off the list of parishes, with their names ending in the familiar *ham* and *ton* and *field* and *ley*, you are recounting a whole era of the "history of the English people." You might read this passage from Mr. Green's admirable book as the most accurate description of the valley, "they live alone," Tacitus says, "each by himself, as woodside, plain, or fresh spring attracts him . . . and as each dweller within the settlement was jealous of his own isolation and independence among his fellow-settlers, so each settlement was jealous of its independence among its fellow settlements. Each little farmer-commonwealth was girt by its own border or mark, a belt of forest, or waste, or fen, which parted it from its fellow villages, a ring of common ground which none of its settlers might take for its own." While, in common with numberless other places, these villages tell their Anglo-Saxon origin by the structure of their names, Fyfield does more. Its name associates more than the rest the modern parish with the ancient manor. In Domesday the place is called "Fifhide," and it is said:—"William de Malduith holds five hides of land, which were held by Ulveva as a manor, allodially of King Edward, called Fifield. They were then assessed at 5 hides, now at 3 hides. Here are five ploughlands, one in demésne and ten villeins, and five borderers with three ploughlands, also a church, two servants and two acres of meadow. In the time of King Edward its value was then as now 100s., and when it came in possession 50s." There are 1252 acres in Fyfield, and it looks as if a very simple exercise in arithmetic would give us a solution of the knotty problem of the area of a "hide."

But this does not work out according to the usually accepted ratio, and probably all we can say is that in this case the hide represents the amount of land required for one family, and that the five families here each held a hide.

The localisation of these families within the confines of the Manor of Fyfield renders it quite easy to understand the constitution of the *Tything*, and the grouping of the several *Tythings* into the *Hundred* is a very plain and obvious development. Thus then, I think, we may claim for Fyfield, through its very name, the distinction of being a most clear and illustrative example of the Manorial system. We can go back to the very remote past when within its *mark* or *boundary* there were five families. We have the inhabitants of the same area; the members of the same defined community kept clearly distinct and separate by their association in the tything; and then the tything of Fyfield with the ten other tythings, making up the "Out" or "Foreign" Hundred of Andover. There is but this one very slight complication—that the Hundred of Andover is divided into two parts, the In and the Out Hundred. All difficulty however disappears if the fact is put in this form—That comprised within the Hundred of Andover is the inner circle of the *Parish* of Andover itself (twenty-two miles in circuit), which goes by the name of the In Hundred; while the Tythings not within the parish of Andover are known as the Out or Foreign Hundred. Law and order were maintained within the area of the Hundred by the responsible authority, who in this case were the "Governing Body of the Borough and Town of Andover." They were the authority over the Hundred because that authority with View of Frank Pledge had been granted to them by Charter from the King. They were responsible to the Lord King, and the Courts of Justice were held in his name. As lords of the Manor of Andover that governing body had other rights; but those other rights of property as lords of the Manor did not affect Fyfield in a direct way.

It is not a little singular that the small, retired, one might almost say out-of-the-way, little parish, perhaps topographically the least conspicuous place in the valley, should present the readiest and most complete example of the integrity and self-contained completeness of a member of the Hundred, and should show with such fortunate distinctness how the *parish* grew up with, and out of, the work of the Church in the *tything*.

When the Domesday survey was taken (1085) the little village church at Fyfield was already old, the time-honoured witness to the working out of Archbishop Theodore's wise plan. And it is significant that while the primitive folk laws, the Hundred-moot and its marvellous organisation, have faded out of practical life, and here, as in most places, are only matters of record and history, the parochial system has survived even the destructive spirit of modern centralisation, and remains as vigorous and effectual as it has ever been throughout the past twelve hundred years.

The Corporation of Andover possesses a wonderful series of the rolls of the Hundred Court, the Court Leet, and View of Frank Pledge. The Tything of Fyfield, of course, made regular and periodical returns, which were duly entered on these rolls, so that through several centuries we are kept in touch with the various circumstances which arose out of the "Local Government" of the Tything. From these rolls we learn of the stocks, the pound, and the butts for the practice of archery, which the good people of Fyfield were once and again called to account for allowing to be out of repair. We read also the particulars of the suits and causes between the inhabitants during the years for which these records are preserved. There are also, no doubt, the same kind, and probably an average number, of historical evidences, such as may be found about most places in the usual sources of such information. For these I have made no search. My present object is to bring to notice an association with Fyfield of comparatively modern date, and one which I hope may be felt to have the closer interest from the fact that on the one hand it is with a notable Hampshire writer, and on the other hand with houses still standing, and the immediate ancestors of people still living amongst us.

It would be difficult indeed to imagine anything more thoroughly typical than the tiny little village church of St. Nicholas, Fyfield. It looks as if it ought to have a place in the sweetest stories of village life. Its little churchyard has such an air of holy calm and rest that the title of God's Acre is the most appropriate that can be given it. Perhaps from an antiquarian point of view the church is a little disappointing, for all original details have been "restored" away, and although the plan of nave and chancel with western bell gable is probably the same it always has been, yet there are none of the fittings or even the stone work as they were

FIFIELD CHURCH.

at the time I wish to speak of. On the north side of the chancel is a white marble tablet with this inscription :—

"On the outside
of this Church
are interred the remains of
HENRY WHITE, A.M.,
twenty-six years Rector of this parish,
who died December 27, 1788,
in the 53rd year of his age,
leaving a widow
and ten children.
Elizabeth, his widow,
died at Northampton
December 9, 1815,
in the 81 year of her age,
and is buried in the Parish Church
of Maidford in that County."

It is the worthy rector thus commemorated I wish to write about. His grave was kindly pointed out to me, but with some degree of uncertainty. There is no inscription over it to mark the spot, a touching and pathetic fact, and according with his distinguished brother's tombstone at Selborne, which is—or was when I last saw it—marked only with the letters G. W.

John White, of Selborne, Esq., who married Anne, daughter of the Rev. Thomas Holt, rector of Streatham, Surrey, had five sons, who were all enthusiastic naturalists, two of them attaining great distinction in that branch of science.

The eldest son, Gilbert, was the author of the well-known "Natural History of Selborne" in the preface to the 1880 edition of that work brought out by James Edward Harting, F.L.S., F.Z.S., it is stated that Gilbert White was born on the 18th July, 1720, but by his brother's diary it would seem that his birthday was either the 9th or 10th. Gilbert was educated at Basingstoke at the Grammar School in the Liten, which was held in part of the Chapel of the Holy Ghost, the ruins of which are so conspicuous from the railway. From thence he proceeded to Oriel College, Oxford, where he was admitted 17th December, 1739, took his degree of B.A. June 1743, was elected Fellow of his college 1744, took his M.A. 1746, was Proctor of the University 1752. He was curate of Faringdon, near Alton, but never took a benefice. He resided in Selborne, which is the next parish, and died there a bacheler 26th June, 1793.

Another son was John White, to whom frequent reference is made in the succeeding pages, he was at one time vicar of Blackburn in Lancashire and had also resided at Gibraltar, where he made large collections for a natural history of that place. He is honourably mentioned by Pennant in his "Literary Life" as having rendered him material assistance in connection with the birds and fishes of Gibraltar. I am enabled to give by the following entry in the Diary the date of his death :—Wednesday, 22 November, 1780.

Yesterday Brother John White died at Blackburne after a very terrible long illness.

Another son, Thomas H. White, who lived at South Lambeth, had been an wholesale ironmonger in London, but retired from business with an ample fortune, and devoted much of his time to literary pursuits, especially on subjects connected with meteorology and natural history. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society, and author of numerous essays which appeared in the Gentleman's Magazine between the years 1780 and 1790, under the signature of T.H.W., among them a series of articles on the "Trees of Great Britain," are particularly deserving of notice for the extensive information, good taste, and variety of reading which they display.

A fourth son, Benjamin, was during the latter half of the past century the principal publisher of English books on Natural History. On the death of his brother Gilbert he succeeded to the Selborne estate and transferred his business to his second son, John, who continued it until within a few years of the present time. The house in which the business was carried on was distinguished according to the fashion of the times by the sign of the Horace's Head.

The youngest son, Henry White, was rector of Fyfield. He likewise was of Oriel College, matriculated 11th April, 1749, at the age of 15 ; took his B.A. 1754, M.A. 1760. He was presented to the living of Fyfield in 1762. He married Elizabeth Cooper, by whom he had ten children.

Sampson, the eldest son, named after his great-great-grandfather, Sir Sampson White, Knight, was admitted at Oriel College 10th December, 1782, and was then the junior of six Whites at that College at the time. He took his B.A. 1786, M.A. 1789, was vicar of Upavon, Wilts, 1789, rector of Maidford, Northampton, 1798, died 1826 ; his mother was buried in his church at Maidford ; she died in the 81st

year of her age, 9th of December, 1815; his son, Sampson Henry White, was of Merton College, matriculated 22nd February, 1820, at the age of 17, was Postmaster 1820-23, B.A. 1823, rector of Wandsford 1826, died 22nd October, 1871.

The second son of the Rev. Henry White was Charles Henry White, of St. Alban's Hall, Oxford, matriculated 11th July, 1787, aged 20, B.A. 1793, M.A. 1797, rector of Shalden, Hants, 1797. He married 3rd June, 1802, Christian, daughter of Alexander St. Barbe, Esq. She died 9th July, 1806, aged 22, and was buried at Fyfield. Charles Henry White died 25th October, 1859.

Another son, Gilbert, died of a nervous fever June, 1795, and was buried at Fyfield.

The youngest son, Francis Henry White, was born 14th May, 1782. He was of Worcester College, Oxford, matriculated 12th March, 1799, B.A. 1803. He was a chaplain in the Royal Navy, sailing with Captain Smith, brother of Mr. Assheton Smith; but subsequently was vicar of Patteshull, Northampton, 1842, which he resigned and came back to the neighbourhood of his old home, living in the house at Abbotts Ann in which Mrs. Best now resides till his death in 1864. He is buried at Fyfield. His descendants most worthily represent at the present moment this singularly gifted family; one of his sons, William White, Esq., F.S.A., is a distinguished architect whose works are well known in this country; whilst a daughter who married the Rev. W. Gray was the mother of the present Earl of Stamford.

It is not a little remarkable that not only did Gilbert White, of Selborne, make a series of observations which have ever been a delightful source of information, but that his three brothers, John, Thomas, and Henry, and his two nephews, Charles Henry and Sampson Henry, also kept records of what they observed with so much zeal and love of nature.

The Rev. Henry White, Rector of Fyfield, took constant and regular observations of all that was within his reach in matters of natural science; and the record of these observations was kept and compared with similar records which his brothers made and preserved. Recently I have been permitted by the Rev. F. G. Holbrooke, the Rector of Kimpton, whose property they are, to examine the diaries for the years 1780, 1781, 1782, 1783, and 1784; the books are of paper, folio size, each page ruled with red ink, now much faded,

into three columns ; as one column serves for each day, when the book is open the record of a week's doings is before the reader, Sunday's doings being entered under the heading of "yesterday" in the Monday column. A heading line marks off the space for the date, another line a short distance from the bottom of the page reserves room for the daily readings of the barometer and thermometer, and the direction of the wind. A horizontal line about the middle divides each day's memoranda into two parts. As a rule, the upper portion is occupied with notes of what went on day by day in the house, family, or garden, while the lower half is used for recording how his team of horses were employed and what the men in his service were engaged on. These diaries contain much that is of the greatest interest, and give a vivid picture of the life of a quiet country clergyman in the second half of the eighteenth century. Mr. White, as he shows himself to us in the pages of his Diary, might have sat for the portrait of dear old Dr. Primrose, and indeed it is impossible to follow him through a single week of his recorded doings, without being continually reminded of that delightful character, and the excellent "gooseberry wine, for the making of which we had lost neither the receipt nor the reputation." We do not come, happily, on any trace of such misfortunes as Oliver Goldsmith tells of, in his inimitable history. And Mr. White's home-made wine was mostly "brewed" from raisins. But the industry with which a liberal supply was maintained leaves no room for doubt that its flavour was appreciated quite as highly, and it has left an aroma that will always afford pleasure to those who love to realise the days gone by. It would be a happy thought if the perusal of the journal of this Hampshire clergyman called up in the mind of any of its readers a suggestion of association between two of the most delightful books in our language. Mr. White lived in the house now occupied by Dr. Lush, which on the whole is probably much the same, structurally, as in his time; the drawing-room, on the first floor, has a very good plaster ceiling; on one of the window cills at the back of the house is carved "H. W. 1774." A window is still pointed out as the means by which a young lady, who eloped with her lover, made her escape. The tradition clings to it only so far as that. I have been unable to identify the errant damsel or the time of the exciting incident, and I do not think it was during the occupation of the Whites at all.

PARSON WHITE'S HOUSE, FIFIELD.

The gardens which had so much of the Rector's attention do not exhibit, with the exception of the cyprus tree and the lawn which he always speaks of as the "Green," any of the features he alludes to. The Whites made a sort of bay in the bank of the stream where it runs through the meadow, which they called the "Cold Bath," and used it for bathing. The Rector constantly notes the height of the water in it. A building, round at the back and thatched, covered part of it, and there was a bathing step. This can be traced still, but it is no longer kept up.

Mr. White retained the rectory house in his hands, farming the glebe with some additional land which he rented, keeping a team of horses for that purpose, which he also let out on hire to his neighbours when they required them. The rectory house, rebuilt in 1830, was used by the pupils of a school which he kept (he does not call it "taking pupils"), his assistant masters were mostly in Holy Orders, and helped him with the numerous clerical duties for which he was responsible. Among his pupils were Sir Philip Houghton Clarke, the sons of most of the neighbouring gentry, and several of his nephews. Nothing can be more clear than that he and his family were held in the highest estimation and were welcome guests at all the houses round. And from this circumstance his diaries have a great value for local history, as there is not a household of any note for miles and miles of which he does not mention some particulars. The man chiefly employed about the house is always called "Sop," and very varied indeed must have been his occupations, for not only were the butter and cheese made at home, but beer, "Siberian beer," Raisin wine, Cider and Perry were all "brewed" by this indefatigable establishment, and the home farm supplied them with all domestic necessaries. Here then in this lovely retired nook of our lovely county this busy but typical family lived their quiet life. We might fancy his saying of it, as the Vicar of Wakefield said, "Walking out, drinking tea, country dances and forfeits shortened the rest of the day without the assistance of cards, as I hated all manner of gaming." We find a quaint lament under the 31st of December, 1782:—"Dined at Redenham with Mr. and Mrs. Butcher; Chute Lodge family came to tea, Whist instead of Music, dreadful alternative. Alas! alas!! alas!!!"

The earliest diary that I have seen is for the year 1780; on the title-page is a quotation from Exodus xx. 10, "Six

days shalt thou labour," written in Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Spanish, French, and English. The top corner of the left-hand column is usually marked "yesterday," and affords a most remarkable illustration of the Sunday life of a country parson who "served" more parishes than one. Whilst we are on this subject, it may be well to give a few extracts which will serve for an example :—

1783, March, Monday 10th.—Yesterday—White Frost. Showers and cold harsh driving Wind a.m., cleared away abt Noon bright and pleasant, clear vesp and bright Night—most beautiful Rainbow just before Sunset. Served 4 churches, Ludgershall, 2 Tidw$^{ths}$ and Fyfield, at home in good time. No Summer Corn sown yet ye ground too soft to Harrow. Vast plentiful River down Tidworth Vale, amazing Floods in ye Avon Bourn last week.

1783, May, Monday 26th.—Yesterday. Very bright night and Morn, white Frost and Ice enough to scorch ye young French Beans and potatoes at Tidworth, incessant parching Wind continues night and day. A most dreadful severe season to all Counties particularly this. Even ye Wheat seems to languish. Servd Kimpton and Fyfield a.m., Ludgershall and N. Tidw$^{th}$ p.m., called on Messrs. Humpris and Goddard, vast multitudes of Hares by Ashen Copse. Beautiful even, tho cold. Great Coat necessary all day in ye full Sun. Mrs. Pn and Mrs. Wildg at Church mat.

1784, April 12th.—Yesterday [Easter Sunday] Dark, cold blowing morn: wind very rough, seems threatening for rain. Served Kimpton Church 9th time. Sacr$^{t}$ there and at Fyfield a.m. Very stormy ride to Tidw$^{th}$ with C.A.S., p.m. Rain began misty and came on harder about sunset. Couns$^{r}$ P at Tidworth dr. T. [drank tea] with do. and ret$^{d}$ home rather wet. Some stripes of snow rem$^{g}$ on Chute hills, and a little on ye hollow roads entering Tidw$^{th}$.

1784, April 19th.—Yesterday. Fine bright morn., no frost, spring-like and pleasant day; brisk wind a.m. Served Kimpton Church 10th time and Sacr$^{t}$ at Tidworth; Couns$^{r}$ P$^{re}$ received, do Mr. Dykes fam$^{y}$. To Dr. with Mr. Recorder. Nephew T.H.W. rode to D$^{r}$. Snow still visible in specks on ye hills near Conholt. Ret$^{d}$ rather late, to church p.m. Went to visit ye sick man at Red$^{n}$ [Redenham] vesp. Dark and threatening at night. George, the son of John and Sarah Shipway, was baptized privately.

1784, May 17th.—Yesterday. Perfect settled dry weather continues, with summer warmth beyond ye season; thin light grey clouds with hot sun between. Went to serve Kimpton before 10 a.m., but ret$^{d}$ not being wanted. Rode to N. Tidworth with C. S. A. and Gil. sent Knapper on to Mr. Dykes. Serv$^{d}$ Thruxton for Mr. Toft and Fyfield vesp. Bathing in ye new sheep pond. Tea on ye green. Mr. C. called vesp. Letters from Mr. T. D. H., S$^{r}$ P. H. C., and Rev. Mr. Wilson. Oaks at Periham begin to show leaves.

Taking the distances into consideration, it is rather difficult to understand how time was got for the usual sermon of the period with its many divisions into "fifteenthly," and so on.

Hampshire is not usually reckoned a cider county; it may be of interest therefore to quote some chronicles of the brew-house.

1780, April 7th.—Sop helping about the Raisin wine all day. Raisin wine filled up the Drawing cask, and put about 20 gallons of very rich Malaga made last November into the store cask and also put 2 baskets of the new fruit into the 3 qr. cask and one basket into the half hogshead from the Parsonage cellar.

1782, April 29th.—Filled the draught barrel of wine quite full, enough in ye Parsonage cellar of ye Michs manufacture to refill ye intermediate barrel.

1782, April 30th.—Sheppard ye Cooper unheaded the taper barrel and put in 1 cwt. of Malaga Raisins. Bottled off ye Shrub from Saunders, 8 bottles and about 1 pint. Bottled off Siberian Beer 7 doz. and 5 bottles, more left and worth preserving, having no seed of ye Hordeum Nuda to sow.

1780, Nov. 7th.—Paid ye cyder man 4s. 6d. for grinding 6 sacks of apples.

1781, Oct. 26th.—Purre hogshead tapped and most excellent liquor.

1781, Nov. 9th.—Purre Barrell fails alas! lasted just 14 days.

1784, Oct. 26th.—No tithe apples from Rednam. Ward's orchard being grubbed up. Cyder said to be sold in ye West at 5s. pr hogshead.

These excellent home-brews were from time to time supplemented by other wines, as for instance,

1780, Oct. 28th.—Team came from Southampton and brt pipe of port wine fr Mr. Ballard, 27 bs of coals, 1 sack of salt, 2 doz. and ½ of whitings, 200 oysters, and 1 sack of salt fr Mr. B. to Dr. Domut, and a few coals for Mundy and also 4 doz. of white wine and 1 hamper. Buckland, his man, Lansley's man, and Jas. Batt all day widening ye hall and cellar doors at ye parsonage to admit ye pipe. Put pipe into ye cellar and on ye stand by 8 vesp.

We hear of this "Pipe" again in misfortune, with reflections thereon, which once more take our minds to Wakefield.

1780, Dec. 7th.—Bottled off the pipe of port wine. Dr. Sheppard and Mr. Griffith had 1 qr. of it. Mr. Ekins had 1 qr., it ran 56 doz. exactly and 4 bottles and 1 of thick, all done in excellent order and without any accident till 30 doz. bottles were danced over and 2 doz. and ½ broke by a drunken beast from Andor.

"Monstrum horrendum"
—unctos saliere per Utres

1782, Oct. 19th.—Claret brt home in Buckland's cart. Horse ran away with the cart and greatly endangered the cargo.

The busy home at Fyfield was not much disturbed by events outside the circle of their own interests. News did not travel very fast in those days, and very few public matters are recorded.

1781, March 15.—News of Rodney's conquest of St. Eustatia, &c. Firing heard about 6 vesp of artillery or small arms.

1781, Nov. 28.—Fatal news reported of Ld. Cornwall's army sd from the D. of Gloster.

1781, Dec. 20th.—Mr. Hy and T. H. W. to Andover to hear the news of Adm. Kempenfeldt.

1782, March 1.—American war sd to be voted against in H. of C. by a majority of 19 ! ! ! !

1782, Aug. 31.—News brt of the sinking of the Royal George at Spithead by laying her too low on her side with the ports open to stop a leak in an expeditious manner not to delay her sailing. A dreadful accident, no instance like it was ever heard of before, so many lives, and a most able Admiral lost Kempenfeldt. It happened on ye 29th inst.

Nor is there much recorded in the way of antiquarian notes; in fact the following entry would perhaps tempt one to question the orthodoxy of Mr. White's antiquarian taste.

1781, March 13th.—Rode to Soper's Bottom and Redenham; saw ye large stone and bespoke Siberian Barley for seed of Mr. Baily Appleshaw.

1781, March 20th.—2 carprs and 2 men, No. 17 and 5 nags went to Soper's Bottom to bring home ye enormous Druidical Stone, but ye rope of Mr. Robinson's engine was so very much decay'd that it broke 3 times; and all were obliged to return *re infecta.*

1781, March 21st.—Team brought home ye great stone and went to plough for Jno Smith p m. Borrowed Nash of Sarsons rope, and by putting it double took ye stone up safe and brt it safe to ye grove without injuring ye waggon in ye least, tho supposed to weigh near 4 tons. Gave Farmer Fuller 3s. for it.

1781, April 12th.—Druidical Column or Kist Vaen erected in ye grove very successfully p.m. will make an excellent gnomon for a meridian line when settled firm.

White's "Druidical Column" is not now standing, but there are large fragments of Sarson Stone all about the village.*

* Since the above was written the house, which remained empty after the removal of Mrs. Lush, has been newly tenanted, and the shrubs which bordered the pathway south of the house leading to the "grove" have been trimmed, bringing to light three Sarson Stones. Of these three stones the two on the west side of the path measure, the one 2ft. 9in. in height above the ground by 3ft. 4in. from north to south by 2ft. thick, the other 4ft. high above the ground by 1ft. 3in. from north to south by 2ft. 6in. thick; the third stone is on the east side of the path, and measures 3ft. 9in. in height above the ground by 3ft. from east to west by 2ft. 9in. thick. Possibly these stones formed part of Parson White's "Druidical Column."—E. D. W.

1782, April 29th.—The bones and skull of a human body found by Mr P's labourers, buried near ye spot where Fr. Saunders barn stood it was covered abt 1 foot beneath the surface.

1784, July 19th.—New church at S. Tidwth. Foundations dug out.

1784, July 26th.—The old church at S. Tidworth began to be taken down this morn in order to be removed by Wm. Lansley.

1784, Sept. 1st.—Rode to see ye new church at S. Tidworth, ye porch just covered and ye inside ceiled.

1784, Oct. 18th.—Served Fyfield and N. Tidworth both a.m. rode back by ye new church which is quite finished, ye doores open to dry it.

The church White speaks of at S. Tidworth was superseded in 1880 by the present beautiful structure built by Sir John Kelk, and was pulled down in 1892.

1784, November 8th.—Roman earthenware found to ye west of Kimpton Copse betwixt that and Ashen Copse some pieces of brick and a fragment of a cullender; coins are frequently found there when ye land is ploughed, found to-day by Bro. Tho., &c.

But while little was recorded of antiquarian interest some things are noted which were very strange to them, though familiar enough now to us. Balloons for example :—

1784, Oct. 18th.—Mr. Wellman came instead of Wednesday. He saw on Saturday last p.m. half-past 4, at Rumsey Mr. Blanchard in his grand air baloon hovering at a great height over ye church, and soon after saw him descend into a meadow near the town, he then let out ye gas, folded up ye baloon and put it into a chaise, in which he returned to London instantly.—Mr. Sheldon set out with Mr. Blanchard, but ye land being too heavy he was obliged to be set down 17 miles on this side of London, at Sunbury Common, near Lord Veres.

Mr. Blanchard was only 3½ hours passing from London to Rumsey, 75 miles, and was seen passing over many places, particularly from Selborne Hill and village, where he appeared in ye N.E. like a blue spot in ye sky about ye size of a small tea urn, and passed on rather to ye N. of Alton, Alresford, and Winton, passing over Lord Northbrook's at ye Grange, possibly within view of ye hills in this district.

1784, Oct. 30th. Mr. Blanchard's balloon was conducted by ropes through Rumsey Town into ye garden of ye Rev. Mr. Penton, where it was folded up.

1784, Nov. 18th. Received an account last night from Sam of Mr. Sadler's ascent in his baloon at Oxford, his passage through a cloud wants explanation, *i.e.*, whether it rained on ye ground at ye same time that his machine received so much water.

Among the things recorded as strange or novel we have an entry relating to what we should probably call a Gorilla, there is nothing to indicate where the exhibition was :—

1780, October 13th.—Saw ye Œthiopian Savage, a very wonderful but frightful resemblance of ye Human Form. The countenance

terrible; it is said to be from Abyssinia or the interior parts of Africa. Its arms and hands are quite of human form, but its feet are like hands, therefore more intended for climbing trees than walking. It seems by no means so gentle, docile, or intelligent as monkeys of the smaller kinds. Sir Ashton Lever has one of this same kind preserved in his museum. The forementioned animal has the brightest colouring on his posteriors of the crimson and purple tints of any animal known. A very large Cassowary also to be seen, from Java, a very wonderful and beautiful bird.

1782, October 19th.—Went to Andover to see Mr. Walker's Eidouranion, a very ingenious and curious exhibition, but particularly that part of his machinery which shews ye compound orbit and complicated motion of 2 unequal bodies round one common center of gravity.

1784, January 27th.—Sam. Gale, formerly a native and a keeper of sheep in this village, has published a learned mathematical essay on publick credit. Received several copies of Do. as a present from ye author for Brother B. on Saturday even.

1780, November 8th.—Buried at N. Tidworth widᵛ Stockwell, aged 100. Within about 2 months she retained all her faculties except hearing, died instantly without any apparent agony.

Notes on ecclesiastical matters are very rare. Here is one worth preserving :—

1781, September 21.—Chancr. Sturges sine Perriwiggs. Visitation Day at Andover, 20 dined at ye Star. 6s. for a very middling ordinary, and wretched new nauseous black strap. Winter peaches and sour grapes. Fish rather antient.

Parson White found himself exercised by the Rates, sometimes a trial still familiar to those of his order.

1781, April 19th.—Parish vestry held, paid 12 Rates this year! more by ¼th than last year.

A "Rate" is presumably twopence.

1782, April 16th.—Parish reckoning 13 Rates! 1 more than last year!!!! Parish expenses more than £61. This year insufferable burden!

1783, April 23.—Parish accounts settled and amounted to more than last year by —— 13 Rates gathered again! Many antient people now on ye book.

1784, April 15th.—Parish meeting, ye Poor Rates higher than ever, 16! Rates, 3 more than ever was known before, but 13 last year.

The poor Rector might not find much consolation from the subject now. But at any rate he did not have to pay Rates on a commuted Tithe Rent charge.

It has been mentioned that observations as to the weather, &c., are recorded every day, and the entries about the migrations of birds and matters of that kind are so very

numerous that in this article notice can only be taken of phenomenal events. Amongst these must be classed the Frost of 1784. On December 8th Mr. White records :—

Horses taken into ye stable having no dry shelter in ye farm. Snow furs up the windows on ye N.E. and S.W. sides of ye house nearly equally.

Next day, the 9th, he writes :—

Snow fell much deeper in ye Night with a very strong Wind W. by N., and much drifted that no measure of it could be taken. Cleared up before Day, ye cold increased much till noon, freezing p.m. vesp with uncommon severity, but perfectly calm and still. Starlight. Severe weather for ye African birds, guinea fowl's leg broken, trod on by ye horses in ye farm yard. Roads much filled up with last night's Snow, quite deep in ye Turnpike; that on Weyhill field quite smoothed over and not visible. Road by Tapps Croft quite blocked up and ye Foot Path at ye bottom of ye village. Icicles of vast length on ye S. side of ye building; tho. ye cold was so intense that ye dripping was soon stoppd; Frost more intense than ever known excepting in Jan., 1768. Windows furred surprisingly.

The readings of the thermometer this day were :—Morning 23, afternoon 25, night ½ above 0 zero.

December the 10th.—The hardest Frost ever remembered exceeding even that of 1768, vast degree of freezing all day, very clear and bright, but ye Sun had scarcely any power to mitigate ye fierceness of ye Frost even at Noon, very thick misty Rime at Night and Frost rather harder than last night.

Siberian weather, everything freezes within, even by ye Fire side. Wild geese seen migrating towards ye S. to day and yesty. Iron was so cold as to adhere to ye Hand this Morn and ye sensation of cold is much different when ye Themr. is below 10, takes off ye power of Fire at a very small distance. Boys skating on ye Pond at ye end of ye Village. Ice very tolerable but small. The Frost seem'd rather fiercer than yesty, till late in ye Even when it began to abate, but ye severity of yesty, and this Day seemed quite alarming.

The thermometer readings for this day were:—Morning 5 below 0, afternoon 19, night ¦2, *i.e.*, 2 degrees below 0, ye lowest ever heard of in this climate.

December the 11th.—Snow, 2 to 3 inches more fell in ye night so that it lies rather deep; continues falling a.m. and light scattering till p.m., ye Degree of Cold much abated and more like other Frosty weather in this Climate but very sharp; stars most bright at night.

John, ye carter, to Andover vesp, with ye horses, to meet S.W. from Oxford. Very comfortable change and ye cold much abated from ye Russian severity of ye 2 former days.

Sam arrived fr Oxford abt 6 vesp, met with great difficulties between Newbury and Andover, where ye snow lies much deeper than at Oxford. Very great interruption of travelling on the

public Turnpikes, many parties obliged to stop at Andover. Rooks seem much distressed and pull ye Ricks very much. They have roosted during ye hard nights in ye Farm Orchard and likewise ye Jackdaws.

The thermometer readings were morning 23, night 26.

December the 13th, yesterday.—Not much Snow fell in ye night, abt an inch, bright Morn, Frost continues but moderate, clear Sunshine but a very keen sharp Wind more than has been since ye Frost began. Servd. N. Tidworth, p.m. Snow lies deep over Littleton Fields more than on ye Downs, wonderful drifts in all ye Hedges like grotesque Rocks round the enclosures. Snow uncommonly light on ye ground and drives in vast currents over ye surface. Better riding than cd be expected, got home early vesp. Rime at night. To-day, Bright Morn and Day, Frost continues just ye same and no sign of change tho. more Snow was expected. The degree of cold very tolerable but keen sharp wind. Most beautiful purple clouds in ye sunset. Roads begin to grow more passable, but by no means pleasant. 1 of ye Western Coaches overturned before they reached Andover. Post Chaises refused to Mr. Hawes. Spiders appear which generally foretells Rain but ye Baromr does not show for change.

The readings of the thermometer for the 13th were 24 mat. 28 p.m., 22 night.

December the 14th.—Bright Morn Frost rather harder, but not so severe to feel, use reconciling even this unpleasant sensation. Cold has abated much of its fierceness to-day and seems inclined to relax a little ; but will probably return again before noon. Waggons move about in abundance, though ye roads are no better. Chief of ye difficulty in passing from London is between Overton and Andover ; from Oxford, between Newbury and do. T. Burs went to Sarum yesty morn , afraid to venture by night.

December the 21st.—Coaches stay at Andover every night and make 2 days Journey instead of one to London.

December the 22nd.—All ye broad leaved evergreen, even ye holly, seems to have suffered severely by ye unusual degree of cold, as they did in January 1768, and probably ye timber trees may be damaged and split in the same manner as then.

December the 24th.—Misty Morn ye sky thickened over cleared away very bright before noon—not nearly so cold Frost last night, but quite settled as ever, froze much harder p.m., Thermr. at Sunset down to 20, very thick rimy, stinking Fog came on after Sunset. Very bitter, fierce frost again to Night. The Thermometer registered 10 night.

Christmas Day, very bright morn. Trees beautifully powdered with Rime, more severity of Freezing than any since the very first beginning, very little Wind but ye Air amazingly keen. Sound of Bells heard fr all ye Villages on every side. Sacrt at Fyfield. Riding not unpleasant over ye open Fields and Downs. Trees powdered most amazingly by ye Rime, make a very picturesque appearance at Tidworth. Pump frozen in ye Wash House! so that ye Frost tho. not quite so cold as ye 2 first days yet operates more strongly within doors. Winter reigns in all its rigour and yet ye Sun shines unusually warm p.m. every day which seems to

destroy every sort of broad leaved evergreen. Holly and ivy leaves brt to decorate the churches and houses seem scorched and blasted. Thermometer 6 mat., 30 p.m., 31 night.

27th. Yesterday.—The rigour of ye Frost much abated this morn tho. it froze very smartly, quite calm and still and seems mild and pleasant compared to the violent severity of yesterday, vast Rime and Fog rolling abt. partially all day, cleared away vesp. very bright and beautiful before Sunset. Fog returned at night. Large Congr. at Tidworth a.m. Snow lies deep as everywhere drifted. Horse tracks in general quite obliterated excepting where waggons have passed. Sheep venture but little fr. ye Fold and cease fr. using Turneps.

31st.—It is very remarkable that no Flocks of Small Birds are to be seen in ye Fields as used to be in such hard weather tho. Larks abounded at ye 1st frost. Riding and walking more tolerable till ye even when the freezing snow was more glazed and dangerous than it has been at all. Spent ye Day at Mr. P[tts], met Mrs. D. and famy. Music, vesp and no cards, ret[d] in ye beginning of ye yr. 1785 with S. W. and C. H. W. Haydown one continual sheet of Ice and all the beaten Paths uncommonly dangerous.

Mr. P. was Mr. Powlett, of Amport, S. W. and C. H. W. were the sons of Mr. Henry White, Samson and Charles Henry.

The remarkable frost of 1784 is the subject of a most interesting letter from Gilbert White to the Hon. Daines Barrington (No. 62), in which he mentions the peculiar local character of the cold, which was not as severe at Selborne as at Fyfield.

As a contrast to this long and severe frost we may select the record of a sudden rise and fall in the temperature on June 20th, 1781. On the 19th the thermometer had been 76. But on the next day there was a "Violent thunderstorm which lasted about 2 hours, it came from the S.E." "Thermometer 85 to 65, it fell 20 degrees during the storm. He mentions on 11th August the same year the "great heat," 83, highest this year, within two degrees of ye morn before ye great storm."

A remarkable storm is chronicled on 27th February, 1781:—

Some few driving showers, then a most dreadful hurricane for more than 3 hours; Family forced to leave the parlour by reason of the smoke. The wind raged so fiercely with squally sudden gusts that the trees began to fall about in Tapp's Grove and Gale's Orchard at a sad rate. Thatch flying about. The ridge and other tiles on ye N.W. point of ye wash house thrown with violence on ye green. The largest elm in ye lower grove which had ye seat round it blown down, though it stood so remarkably sheltered!

The wind seemed rather more mischievous just as it shifted round to the N. by the W., which usually happens in storms of wind, but ceased, or rather bated its force soon after.

28th.—Mason repairing the tiling on ye wash house. The Parsonage tiling and also the chancel sadly torn and the Church roof damaged. The effect of ye storm more general than was imagined at first, many barns and other buildings down everywhere and the state of trees wonderful indeed. Waggon loads of hay which were left abroad for the sheep blown over in many places, and the waggon turned upwards on Thorney Down. Largest walnut tree in the meadow broke off short, being deeper rooted than ye elms. The great gigantic elm at Thruxton entirely demolished; it was much injured by a storm about 7 years since, but before that the most truly grand tree I ever saw, both in size and beauty. Large trees blown down at Appleshaw. Most of the venerable old trees destroyed at many noble seats, viz., Lords Pembroke and Portsmouth, Mr. Portman's, and at Farley, near Basingstoke.

5th March.—Served S. Tedworth. Mr. Smith's fine large spreading trees which were thinned out, sadly torn and demolished. Mr. Poore lost only 4 trees, but says it was ye fiercest storm since 1734. Hayter's barn blown into ye street. Elm which was blown down measured 17½ feet, sold to Buckland for 17s. 6d.; it was measured in ye smallest part. Mr. Holt's large trees before his house received no damage from ye hurricane, which seems surprising, as being the almost only instance. Elms which were blown down show much bloom. The storm was as vehement at Selborne by accounts from there.

1783, 17th July.—The sun sinks away every day into ye blue mist about 5 p.m., and seems to set behind vast black clouds.

19th.—Air seems clearer from ye late blue thickness, which has been so very remarkable that ye superstitious vulgar in town and country have abounded with ye most direful presages and prognostications.

1782, 25th September.—Hail laid so thick on ye road near Overton yesterday, as to resemble snow and be mistaken for it.

1784, May 6th.—Whirly puffs of whirlwinds seen last Tuesday in many places moving from N. to S. Hats hung up to dry taken up to a vast height into the air. Prognostic of dry weather. Hats taken up by the whirlwind on Tuesday were pursued towards Quarley, but kept on flying in the same direction like an air balloon.

It is very possible that other considerations beside those interesting to the Meteorologist impressed this freak of the North wind on the worthy Rector's mind, for the arrival of a new hat was an event sufficiently important to enter, thus :—

1783, May 3rd.—New hat arrived; Mundean system.

June 21st.—C. H. White's and Harriet's hats came from Watts, London, by the Bath coach.

Gilbert White has observations on English snakes in letters dated 1768 and 1776. In the former to Thomas Pennant, Esq., he remarks, "Providence has been so indulgent to us as to allow of only one venomous reptile of the

serpent kind in these kingdoms, and that is the viper." It seems impossible therefore to suppose that Henry White should have called any other snakes vipers, but it is rather surprising to find the record of so many killed.

1781, March 26th.—Viper seen first and killed yesterday in Southfield, was very active and furious, and bit itself when wounded; his slough seemed very loose, and ready to come off.

May 24th.—Viper taken p.m. about 7 o'clock in ye close by ye 9 acres. Very alert and fierce in his new skin—positis novus exuviis, nitidusque juventa . . convolvit . . . —et linguis micat ore trisulcis.

1782, May 13th.—Vipers killed, 1 yesterday and 1 on Sunday near ye village.

3rd June.—Viper killed in the Newfield yesterday.

5th June.—Viper killed in the Field behind the Grove.

1780, Sept. 23.—Walked with Mr. Hy. (Halliday) to Dr. Sm(iths), killed a young viper with a frog in him almost digested.

1781, Sept. 1.—Mr. Halliday and T. H. W. walked to Andover, killed a viper on ye Turnpike road.

Similar entries occur continually. A rare find is mentioned on 19th May, 1781. "Gryllo Talpa, a very curious insect, found near Penton, seldom met with in this country. (See Gilbert White's letter to Hon. Daines Barrington, xlviii.)

1781, May 28th.—Gryllo Talpa, very fine, found by T. H. W. in lower edge of ye sanfoin generally found in clay near water.

1781, April 19th.—A bird with a soft, gentle, delicate, laughing note appeared with ye blackcap, supposed to be of ye Titmouse tribe.

Many birds now extinct in these parts were not uncommon in Mr. White's time. No ravens are known hereabouts now, though there were some at Tangley within memory, but they were not so rare in 1781. In that year

April 19th.—Boys went to Abbots Anne Wood, brought home 2 young Ravens nearly fledged.

8th October.—Rode to Mr. Duke's through Thruxton. Ravens and rooks on ye trees warbling.

1784, 8th April.—Young men went to ye woods Amport, Sarsen, and Abbot's Anne, found no eggs; only a raven's nest with 5 young birds nearly half grown.

8th May.—Viper killed in ye hedge west of ye field garden; given to ye ravens.

1781, April 14th.—Young men to Periham Copse took 6 crow's eggs.

1783, January 2nd.—Snipes in great multitudes by ye brook.

1780, April 19th.—Heron's nest taken with 4 eggs at Abbot's Anne Wood by C. H. W. J. White, Benj. Woods, and R. Cane.

1782, April 25th.—Young men to Abbot's Anne Wood found an Heron's nest.

1780, October 10th.—Sir P. H. C., Mr. Barker, and Bob Cane to Stonehenge, Wilton, &c., saw 18 bustards.

The collection of truffles was a regular part of the year's work, and the entries are very numerous and precise which record the result of the "Trufleman's" visits.

1780, January 6th.—Trufle man came; absent near 6 weeks, very few found 7th time.

1782, January 6th.—Trufle man 3rd time; scarcely any to be found where the man has been into Glostershire to Lord Davies, where they find many trufles, though it has not been the custom to hunt for them. He found his Lordship hunting y^m^ with a pig.

Mr. Henry White seems to have always been keenly alive to any possible improvents in farming and on the look out for anything that could be introduced with advantage, and amongst other things gave some attention to the cultivation of tobacco. He often speaks of the tobacco plants in his own garden, and at any rate took great interest in those raised by his neighbours. Thus he notices :—

1780, September 14th.—Fine plantation of tobacco at Taylor, Kents, and Smith, ye Malsters, some leaves 13 inches by 21.

1781, May 7th.—Tobacco plants of last year's growth, cut by E. Smith. Smoked at ye parish meeting at Easter and much approved. Tobacco plants from Buckland's put into ye boy's hotbed and seeds.

1781, September 28th.—Tobacco leaves gathered and cut green by R. Smith, then dried and proved to be excellent, with a fine flavour like ye Havanna Segars.

Here is a notice of an "occupation," which like many similar ones has "gone" from these parts now.

1781, October 13th.—Valerian ye Medicinal, gathered by poor women from the hedgerows and copses; to be sent to London for the use of ye Apothecaries; 2 women in ye new field gathered it to-day. It abounds much in this part of Hants.

1781, May 11.—Dwarf Elder or Dane Weed flourishes much beyond ye Parsonage House. It was brought from Selborne about 3 years since, and is uncommon in these parts; planted some slips on ye edge of ye grove.

1783, February 5th.—Water Cresses in great abundance in ye brook, many people come with horses to carry away loads of them to send to London by ye coaches.

Several visits from Gilbert White, of Selborne, are recorded. The diaries do not begin early enough to include that one during which he wrote the letter to the Hon. Daines Barrington (No. ix in his Natural History) dated from Fyfield, nor are any particulars given as to his observations while there; but there are several notes of intelligence which had come from "Brother Gilbert" or "Brother White from

Selborne" as he is called. For instance the construction of the well-known path on the Hanger there is thus mentioned:—

1782, April 4.—The New Path up Selborne Hanger cut obliquely f^t^ ye foot of ye Zigzag to ye corner of Wadden Close, opens the most picturesque View of the inside Wood in ye style of Reubens; and the most amazing Views ever seen.

1781, March 8,—The Storm was so vehement at Selborne by accounts from there, broke Bro. White's large walnut tree and overset his Alcove and by Acc^t^ in ye French Paper numbers of large Trees were demolished in ye Tuilleries and Luxembourgh Gardens at Paris.

"The old family tortoise," spoken of in Letters vii, xiii, xvii, xxxvi, and L. to Hon. Daines Barrington is thus remembered 1784, July 23, "Tortoise at Selborne seems to enjoy his present situation as well as he did Ringmer but does not appear to increase in size."

2 very beautiful Tortoises brt from Madagascar by Mr. Chs. Etty; but both died immediately after their arrival at Selborne, supposed to be destroyed by ye jolting of ye Boot of ye Stage Coach.—Hail Storm at Selborne on ye 5th ult. with vast pieces of Ice made great destruction of Windows, Hot-bed lights as also of Wheat and Hops and was accompanied with a vast deluge of Rain.—Neither Annual Fowers nor Cucumbers nor any production of Hot-beds have grown for some time past, owing probably to ye cold nights and shady wet weather. This is the case at Selborne as well as here.—Grapes at Selborne blossom just a fortnight later than last year.—Wheat not so forward by much at Selborne, some not turned colour at all.

1782, Oct. 12.—Hop Fair mostly finished very few b^rt^ and almost all sold, ye best at £10 and £11. Old and bad ab^t^ £6 p^r^ cwt. Selborne s^d^ to have sent their whole crop in one Waggon!

1784, Oct. 15th.—Some of ye Hops which were cut off by ye Hailstorm at Selborne June ye 5th sprouted out so much as produce (some say) a better crop for it. Qu, might not this be a hint for pruning or pinching in ye same manner as is practised on Melons or Cucumbers.

1780. Aug. 28.—Bro. and Neice arrived from Selborne. Miss Poore and Miss Butcher sat for their pictures to Mr. Metz 1st time. This article should be in ye next day's column.

This Mr. Metz who appears to have lived in London, paid many visits to the Whites at Fyfield and painted the portraits of many of them. There is a tradition in the family that Gilbert never would sit for his likeness, and there is not one of him known to exist. The fact, however, that he was staying with his brother at Fyfield at the same time as the artist, who certainly painted many of his relatives, almost

raises hopes that some sketch may some day be found, especially as on Aug. 30 "Neice M. White sat for her Picture to Mr. Metz 1st time." "Bro. White," however, was taken ill on Sept. 1st and "H. White taken ill in ye night" the same date. The illness was not a long one, for there is nothing to shew he did not take duty on the 3rd, and on the 4th he "Dined at Mr. Foyles, West Cholderton, with Mr. and Mrs. Ekins, fine Pine Apple in ye Dessert, Cool evg. Aurora Borealis and Meteors." On Friday 8th, "Bro. White returned to Selborne in Robt Lake's chaise." 1780, Oct. 3, "Nephew Barker arrived from Selborne." On Tuesday, April 2nd, 1782, Henry White "set out for Selborne ab$^{t}$ 10 a.m., dined at Lunways, arrived ab$^{t}$ 7 vesp at G.W.'s." The next day he found "Vast Torrents gushing into the lanes ab$^{t}$ Selborne and violent Floods in ye sands beyond Woolmer Forest." While the Rector of Fyfield was staying with his brother, April 6th, "H. W. and G. W. saw the new Altar Piece at Winchester Cathedral; ye raising of Lazarus, by Mr. West—very fine, ye Frame gone to be changed.

Vast thunderstorm with violent hail rose up about 2 p.m. near Southampton and steered away for Winton; hailstones very large but no irregular formed pieces of ice. The sound was so formidable that it was thought prudent to take shelter under ye eaves of ye Turnpike Hovel on Magdalen Hill. The melting hail which lay deep on ye road, clogged to the horse's feet so as to make it very difficult riding. Bright evening and very cold, but no frost. H. W. and G. W. arrived at home about 9 vesp. Dibsdale's House cheaper than Lunways.

The next day was Sunday. It would be interesting to know if Gilbert White took any part in the services; probably he did, for this is what is entered

Yesterday cloudy and rough N.E. wind all night and morn, rather cold, dark day but no sign of rain. Sacr$^{t}$. at Fyfield. Served Kimpton afternoon service for Mr. Cane. Do. began 1st time at Shipton. Thunderstorm arose about 4 p.m., very black in ye S. and wore away to ye W. A very steady gale blowing from N.E. quite cold; thunder at a distance but no rain came near. Comis$^{r}$. Poore at Tidhworth. S. H. W. to drink tea with do.

There is no indication of the date of Gilbert's return, but on Friday, 26th April, "Mrs. Carley paid in full for ye horse to Idmestone, Tidworth, and Selborne paid by Rob$^{t}$. 11s. 6d." He made another visit late in that year (1782) for it is mentioned November 1st, "Martin seen flying about ye chalk cliff at Wherwell by G.W. on his return to Selborne."

To Mr. White's old fashioned, but sound and well tried principle, of doing oneself what we wish to have done, we owe the fact that many interesting traces of the interior economy of the household are preserved in his diaries. It is as difficult in these altered days to realize what the value of a Fair was, as to think of a correspondence so scanty, that the reception of a letter was a matter to chronicle. It is this difficulty which makes much of the record of Urban life and government a century ago, as hard to understand as if the reign of Edward III. rather than of George III. were the period of study. The alteration is so thorough, and has come so suddenly, that it carries with it an inevitable air of exaggeration.

It says a very great deal for the energy and activity of this worthy Rector, that while he was doing so much which depended on his own learning, while he was taking so honoured and prominent a place in local society, there were but comparatively few matters connected with the provisioning of the house or the work of the farm which he does not set down as they occurred.

Perhaps the most characteristic and illustrative are the notes on the cheese consumed.

There was a cheese fair at Andover; it is frequently mentioned in the town documents. I have often heard of it from those who can recollect how the cheeses used to be piled up by the roadside, and offered for sale. There is still a corner in Weyhill Fair where cheese is sold. If I am not mistaken most of it comes from Wiltshire. In my own Rectory house, built between 50 and 60 years ago, there are capacious racks which tradition tells were filled with cheeses at "Fair-time." I have no distinct recollection of ever tasting a Hampshire cheese, or at least one made near here, but a friend of mine whose memory can go back well nigh three score years and ten, tells me that if a (wooden) plough wanted tightening up while work was going on, the readiest plan was the usual one, to cut a wedge from the cheese in the dinner bag and hammer it in.

However, the household at Fyfield throve on it. It was the custom to buy a stock at Andover Fair and replenish it at Weyhill Fair, and every cheese that was cut is duly entered in the Diary, a cheese as a rule lasting about four days. Once, however, in 1782, it did not last so long. The 28th of the stock was cut on March 1st, and on March 2nd we read,

"Cheese cut 29th, that yesterday being very strong." The following entry will explain the designation "Fives," "Sixes," &c., meaning that number to the hundredweight :—

1781, October 10th.—Fair at Weyhill.

Cheese bought of Mr. Stone.

| | cwt. | |
|---|---|---|
| Common Cheese | 7 | Sixes. |
| Do. | 1 | Fives. |
| Do. | 1 | Sevens. |
| 54 Cheeses. Total | 9 | at 33s. |

at the same time 2 Mr. Powlett.
1 Mr. Cane.
no Truckles or Sage.

11th.—Cheese fair very full and said to be sinking in price.

This was the second supply in that year, for at Andover Fair on 11th May the purchase had been,

Cheese bt of R. Stone 61 in No.

| | |
|---|---|
| Common Cheeses at 4 cwt. of Fives, 3 cwt. of Sixes, 2 cwt. of Sevens | 33s. per cwt. 14 17 0 |

9 cwt.
and 1 cwt. 8 lbs. of Truckles, No. 7, and Sages, No. 2, at 46/9 £2 6 8

It may be assumed that this was not all Hampshire cheese of the typical character mentioned above.

These were stored on shelves in "the Parsonage," but

"The best laid schemes o' mice and men
Gang aft agley."

1781, Dec. 24.—Shelves behind ye kitchen fell with 21 Cheeses—providential escape that no one was hurt. Cheeses on ye shelf which fell ys morn 15 new ones, 4 old, 1 Sage and 1 Truckle, weight sufficient to have broken the ablest Head.

1782, April 13.—Cheese cut 38th and 39th, 1 almost eaten up by the mice coming along ye ceiling to ye hanging shelf and not observed in time.

1783, January 15.—Jos. Lansley stopped ye Holes in ye ceilings to keep ye mice from ye cheese.

18th.—Mice gnaw this fresh mortar and come to ye cheese again—stoppd once more to-night.

Other stores were bought in the same way, so that the household were for many things, at any rate, quite independent of shops.

1781, January 22.—2 Cwt. Malag Raisins at 28/-
1 Cwt. Smyrna do. at 34/-
½ Cwt. Currants 52s. and 56/-
Total Loaf Sugar, 2 Cwt. 7lb.
Powder do. 56lb.
23rd.—Weighed off Sugars, Currants, &c.
2 loaves of 13d.
10 do. 10
2 do. 11
4 do. large 9
¼ Cwt. Powder Sugar.
14 loaves hanging on ye beam in ye kitchen.

A substantial reserve like this is calculated to calm domestic prognostications, even when it can be recorded as it is on 5th March, 1783 :—

Mutton has been so very scarce for some time as not to be got at any rate owing to ye Rot among ye sheep, br[t] on by ye past wet seasons, particularly ye last most unparalleled summer. Bacon getting dear in proportion.

1780, January 25th.—Great want of all sorts of produce from ye garden, and great complaints in ye markets in London and ye country.

Some notes of the prices at which farm produce sold are worth preserving :—

1780, February 13th.—Sold L[d] of wheat to Horsebridge Mill for £9 5s., by Mr. Berrett.

April 17th.—Farmer Kibbeck bought 1 ton of the meadow hay rick of 1777 for £3 per ton.

July 14th.—Paid Jane Thorn, finished weeding, paid in full 11 days, 5s. 6d.

July 29th.—Wheat, sold 1st load from ye rick for 11 guineas, to Mr. David, of Rushall.

September 16th.—Violet bot. 3 doz. and half butter at 7½d, bad stuff.

October 2nd.—Geese 8 b[t] at Monxton mill at 2s. 6d. each, 2 bro[t] home and killed.

October 30th.—Uphaven Fair, pigs remarkably cheap; good sized do. sold at 4s. each.

November 25th.—Team to Andover with Mr. Goodall's hay and Mr. Hemming's cheese and honey. 4 Truckle cheeses at 6d. weighed 48 lbs.—£1 4s.; honey at 5½d. per lb. 25 lbs.—11s. 5½d. Packages and Pan.

1781, March 24th.—Barley sold at Andover market by Mr. Bennett, 8 quarters at 18s. to Farmer Cooke, of Collingbourne.

May 25th.—Butter from Andover, 6 lbs. at 7½d.
Do. from farm, 4 lbs. at 8d.

May 29th.—Butter from farm, 6 lbs. at 7½d.

June 26th.—5½ gallons of gooseberries from Taylor, Kent, 2s. 9d.

July 24th.—Hogshead of Cyder price £3 10s., cask to be returned.

November 3rd.—Appleshaw Fair very full, and sold very cheap, many Dorsets unsold.

1782, December 11th.—Sent a sample of ye old oats to Andover market by Mr. B$^{t}$, but for want of examining them myself it was taken out of a damaged musty part where a little rain had entered ! ! This day a proper sample was sent, and sold at 23s. per quarter ! ! at least 3s. per quarter under ye market price ! ! !

1783, January 7th.—21 quarters 4 bushels of oats sold for £23 11s.

January 9th.—Mr. Butcher called and took another sample of ye oats, he says that our finest dry barley would yield 2 gs. per quarter at Warminster, 39s. at Rumsay.

May 3rd.—Wheat falls in ye price owing to importation from America ! it has been as high as £18 per load lately in ye western markets.

1783, October 11th.—Hops, none from Selborne and very few from that district, few from Farnham and a very thin shew on ye Hill tho. some Kentish and some old Hops were brt. Best price £11 per cwt. Bought none. Weyhill being ye worst market when they are dear tho. the best when they are cheap.

1784, January 17th.—Called at Mr. Daniels Rushall a.m. Do called here on his return from And$^{r}$ Market, wd. bid no more than 34s. for ye Barley therefore he had it not. Newbury Market much cheaper than Devizes and Warminster 5 or 6s. per Qr.

March 13th.—Hay, ye last yrs meadow, sold yesty to F$^{r}$ Taplin at 3 Gn$^{s}$ per Ton supposed to be ab$^{t}$ 5 Tons, proved to be sadly damaged by putting musty shocks into ye rick from ye summer cocks, fetched to day 1 Ton 2 Cwt., abatement expected and must be made, sad neglect of Serv$^{ts}$ ! and a great loss as well as vexation.

April 19th.—Hay sold at £5 per Ton in ye Avon Bourn, sd. to be sold for 6 and £7 in ye West and at 45s. only at Oxford.

October 5th.—A sack full of walnuts brot in for ye Tithe of Holdways which he b$^{t}$ of Farmer Berrett, sent some to Ramridge.

November 9th.—Barley rose last Sat$^{y}$ at Andover Market 5/- p$^{r}$ Q$^{r}$ from 25/- to 30/- said to be caused by ye reduction of ye price of spirituous Liquors which has set the Distilley to work. This counteracts ye effect of ye vast plenty of Cyder.

1784, December 4th.—Markets fall much both for Wheat and Barley.

December 18th.—Markets continue to fall, ye best Barley not worth more than 25/- per Quarter and Wheat more dull than it was.

There are a few observations which perhaps may be called Farm Lore, as for example :—

1784, March 26.—Smut Balls do not break when wheat is threshed on Hurdles, therefore the Grain is not Blackened, but they do not blow away in winn$^{g}$.

April 3rd.—It is thought best not to sow Barley immediately after Snow as it is apt to chill ye earth.

1780, July 24th.—Reaping Wheat begun in Fr. Berrett's piece N. of ye Grove. It was by no means ripe or near it, but was sadly Blighted so that many ears have now no corn in them at all, and it is to be feared that this mischief is more general than it is now suspected. Farmers think Barberry Trees effect this ; others rather suspect Frosty nights and scorching Days in June to be a more probable cause.

1784, March 5th.—Rooks seem to build more in earnest—Hesiod's rule seems inverted—he and Aristophanes say that the Farmers sh[d] sow corn when directed by ye Birds, but in fact these Birds wait till Farmers sow corn before they begin their nidification.

The following observations on the Natural History of by-no-means extinct species may possibly be read by some with sympathetic recollection of the line

"One touch of Nature makes the whole world kin."

1783, January 7th.—Lansley Men 2, Boys 2, mending ye Tiling of ye House and Parsonage. Do. had time enough to have mended ye Chancel, but walked off with a p[r] of Robert's shoes.

9th.—Robert's shoes b[rt] back from Ludgershall, to which place they had been ingeniously convey'd by ye Mason's boy, nomine Richardson.

1781, December 25th.—Hannah French dismissed from her service; Robt. gave much sage advice thereon. Sevts. now past all reprehension.

Who Robert was may be gathered from the following extracts :—

1783, February 19th.—Robt. delirous and absurdly saucy and obliged to be desired to take his leave.

20th.—Robt. discharged and paid off to make up ye yr 3 13 6
odd time since to this day ... ... ... ... 2 10 0
Advance Extra ... ... ... ... ... 0 8 3

£6 11 9

On submission and entreaty permitted to stay on.

March 4th.—Robt's Livery and Hat brot. home. H.W.'s Synagogue Waistcoat and breeches.

1783, February 18th.—Anthony Cook built up ye wall which bulged in ye Front of ye Parsonage house. Too Early for Building, but suits the workmen well as it will probably soon want doing again.

February 5th.—Goat at ye Farm, ye Male Killed by a Kick from ye Poney in ye straw y[d], ye carcass by way of Perfume put just under ye Fir Trees facing ye house.

May 22nd.—Tom Kent kicked in ye shin by ye Cart Mare; Plough boys must play foolish tricks.

1781, September 3rd.—After 26 Hours obstinacy and confinement Betty Oak confesses to have hid the broken handle of ye Dessert Spoon in a chink of ye Laundry Floor where it was found, and she was dismissed after a very severe reprimand.

More discoveries of Betty Okes theiving :—Linnen given to ye neighbours.

1782, February 25th.—Fine Baking Pear Tree broken to pieces most vilely by ye Masons at ye new washhouse.

28th.—Turnpike Gate and Hut next Davis's demolished last night. The Gate vanished. The Hut lying across the Road.

1784, July 24th.—Ruff's finest Dog puppy run over by Fr Berrett's Cart of Green Vetches and killed on ye spot to ye great delight of ye savage Race of swinish carters!!!

1784, August 7th.—Curtis's Flora Londinensis ye 3 vols. returned from Chute Lodge, in ye Butchers's Hampers, with abundance of Suet, &c., &c., &c., yet escaped unhurt!!!!

It has been already remarked that the family at Fyfield Rectory were in great social request; nor is this to be wondered at. His diaries prove that Mr. White was a man of much learning, ever ready with quotations from the classic authors, and familiar with all country loving subjects he could converse practically on things connected with the farm and garden, as well as about dogs and guns, coursing and hunting, Astronomy, botany and natural history were his hobbies. Whatever subject he begins, the concluding sentences of his paragraphs are fairly sure to have a notice of some matter of natural science. His sense of the humorous was very keen; even when recording vexatious incidents he generally puts it in a genial way, for example:—

1781, October 31st.—Lansley's man and boy sifting earth for mortar in new washhouse; not being able to obtain ye wire coal rudder contented themselves with destroying ye bottom of ye wheat rudder. Not near enough sifted, and great want afterwards for want of dry earth.

1784, January 10th.—Bush faggots, 5 lost their way coming up ye village, embezzlements strongly suspected among ye Poles and elder Lop. Barley rick pulled much higher than four-legged pigs could reach.

But his love for music, and the proficiency in performance attained by some of his family and household contributed, no doubt, a great deal to the enjoyment afforded by those friendly gatherings so frequent in the neighbourhood, at which the Whites were ever welcome as guests, and the hearty hospitality with which he entertained travellers as well as the friends living round him, is refreshing to read of. Everybody seems to have been on the most cordial terms with them, visiting and being visited in turn, without the least trace of clique or exclusiveness. The musical instruments in use at the Rectory included the Harpsichord, Pianoforte, Spinet, Fiddle, and Violoncello. Mr. White could not only play, but tune and re-quill the Harpsichord. One of their friends, Mr. Holt, of Redenham, possessed a "Coelestina," which afforded great delight to the music-loving Rector. An extract has already been given which shows his disappointment when cards took the place of music, but it would almost seem as if

at his own house it had upon occasion been too much for his patience.

1783, January 23rd.—Penton, Clanville, and Blismore Hall families to dinner. Cards, cards, cards, et præterea nihil.

1780, July 11th.—H. White, Chas. White, and Sir P. H. Clarke rode to Andover. Harpsichord tuned by Mr. Tremain.

1781, September 19th.—Harpsichord is to be sent to Mr. Pether, London, for new jacks, keys, &c., &c., &c.

1781, October 19th.—Sent Rob$^{t}$. with the cook Jolly and Buckland's machine to return Sir P, H. C's Piano Forte to Mr. Bank's, Sarum. B$^{rt}$ back Mr. Wellman's Harpsichord for Eliz. and also 1 cwt. of Sope and 18 doz$^{n}$ of Comm$^{n}$ Candles, 4 doz. mold do. Sir P. H. C. had the Piano Forte from Sarum July 17th, by T. Burr's cart.

October 20th.—Sent the Harpsichord to go to Mr. Pether, No. 25, ——— Street, Oxford Road, London, who is to put in new keys, jacks, wires, &c., &c., and to make it a complete instrument for 10 gs. By Hatherall next Monday, car. p$^{d}$.

1782, January 7th.—Waggon to Andover ab$^{t}$ noon b$^{rt}$ home Treakle, stinking Prmint Mash tub and Harpsichord. Harpsichord had been sent to London ever since October 20th.

January 8th.—Harpsichord unpacked and b$^{rt}$ very safe. Its touch is not inferior to that of any new instrument, and the tone very soft and equal to any new or old, and it is very complete indeed, well worth the expense.

February 19th.—Packed up and put into ye l$^{d}$ of hay, Mr. Wellman's Harpsichord, and also sent Violoncello to Banks to raise ye sound post.

March 19th.—Fiddle sent to Mr. Banks for a new peg by T. Burr$^{s}$. No ink could be had, no q$^{t}$ bottles in Sarum.

March 25th.—Harpsichord sunk a whole note below concert pitch; raised it half way.

April 23rd.—Raised ye Harpsichord to concert pitch; it was sunk half a note

1784, December 23rd.—Began tuning ye Harpsichord and quilling it. Took out ye Piano top and discovered ye reason of ye keys sticking so sadly, it was ye want of more play in ye pinholes, and also casting of two of ye long keys Mr. Pether's wood not being well seasoned; soon rectified by ye assistance of ye carp$^{r}$.

December 24th.—Harpsichord completely tuned and quilled, and ye keys perfectly rectified, so that it is now in better condition than ever.

1783, March 1.—Put a green blind to ye middle light of ye Parlour window to skreen ye Harpsichord from ye sun.

1784, February 4th.—Harpsichord b$^{rt}$ downstairs into ye common Parlour.

May 8th.—Harpsichord carried upstairs for ye summer.

Apropos of quilling the Harpsichord the following is an interesting entry bearing on the importance of Fairs in the country life of the time.

1781, October 9th.—Quills 1500 b$^{t}$ from ye Sedgemoor Marchant on Weyhill at 1s. per Hund., the cheapest market by far. At Andover they are full three times as dear.

When opportunity offered the White family attended public concerts, but "musical invitations" to neighbours' houses were a continual source of pleasure to them. Now and then we get the reflections of a candid though friendly critic.

1780. August 23rd.—Many horses collected for ye expedition to Sarum.
August 24th.—No. 14 (*i.e.*, 14 in number) went to hear the Sarum musick. The Miss Abrams with their mouths shut and dusky faces. The Messiah at Church and Daphnis, &c., at ye Room. Greek ode best calculated for the Arctic Circle, Piozzi shamm'd Abram.

1781, October 5th. Mrs. White, &c., went to Mr. Parry's Concert at Sarum, most beautiful travelling thither and back. Road dusty in ye track over ye Downs.

1782, March 6th.—Mr. Parry to dinner with Mr. Wellman. Some lessons and one song, unlucky hoarseness prevented more.
March 1st.—Set out after d^r with T.H.W., H. W^ds, C.H.W., and went to Mr. P's concert, Mr. Dale and S.W. on horseback. Downs very pleasant and dry enough for travelling.
December 19th.—Went to Sarum Concert with Mr. F.D.H^y. Dorsetshire Band, very full room.
April 15th.—To Redenham vesp. with Eliz., Chas., and Mr. Dale. Musical visit to meet Mrs. P^a.
February 6th.—Dined at Mr. Holts with Mrs. W., E.W., and Chas., met Mrs. Mabbot, Mr. and Miss Butcher. Music vesp. Coelestina, &c. Mr. H^y and T.H.W. ret^d from Sarum to tea. L^n from Oxford 7d.

1783, August 29th.—Went to the Oratorio of the Messiah for Mr. Wellman's benefit at Romsey.
September 26th.—H. and B. Wood and Dale, and S.W. and C.H.W., went to the Oratorio of Esther at Salisbury.
October 16th.—Mrs. and Miss Powlet, Mrs. Goater and Miss Sanez, Mr. and Mrs. Pollen, Mr. and Mrs. Leversuch, Mrs. and Miss Butcher, &c., &c., came to hear Master Crotch.
October 17th.—Went with Bro. B. White, &c., to Mr. Pollen's to hear Master Crotch perform on the Celestina.

This must have been the celebrated Dr. Crotch, Professor of Music at Oxford, who was born 5th July, 1775, and died 29th December, 1847, and therefore eight years old at this performance.

1784, September 24th.—Mrs. Bruce and ye Miss Litchfields from Ramridge called a.m. to hear musick.
October 29th.—Drank tea at Redenham; Mr. and Mrs. Penton, &c., there. Musick was proposed and attempted but ended in F. flat, Mr. Bayes's note.

1782, May 5th.—Mr. Parry came and staid. Dr. with M. Wellman, recomd^s for his benefit in a l^r from Mr. B's.
May 14th.—Rode to M. Parry's benefit concert at ye Sarum Theatre. Judas Machab^s very decently performed. Mr. Parry very great as a singer and player; had a tolerably good house and more than expd.

1782, Febb. 23rd.—Musical invitation to Redenham disappointed by ye wet even. Mr. Holt going to Bath.

The dinner hour is not stated, but it was probably about 4 o'clock, as there was time for expeditions after it, as well as music. There is a favour of appreciation in the records of the dinner parties that makes us think of the successes of Dr. Primrose's daughter. "If the cakes at tea are short and crisp, they were made by Olivia, if the gooseberry wine was well knit the gooseberries were of her gathering, it was her fingers that gave the pickles their peculiar green, and in the composition of a pudding it was her judgment that mixed the ingredients;" and we almost listen for the voice that still calls with such human accents: "Deborah, my life, grief you know is dry, let us have a bottle of the best gooseberry wine to keep up our spirits—and Sophy, love, take your guitar and thrum in with the boy a little."

1782, March 21st.—Dined at Mr. Bowles with his nephews ye Revn[d] Messrs, Powell and Matthews. Detained by bad weather till 9 vesp., dreadful bad weather full in ye face so as to make it terrible riding. Snow clogged to ye horse's feet, continual danger of falling and in many places ye track nearly obliterated made a late return rather hazardous, and doubtful as well as painful through ye cold and wet.

1781, August 10th.—Sir P. H. C., Mr. F. D., Hy., H., and Mrs. W. to dinner at Mr. Powlett's. Venison, cantaleupe, &c., &c. Mrs. went in Mr. Crookshank's phaeton. H. retd.

1784, Sept. 27th.—Venison a side presented by Sir Sidney Meadows very fine and fat. Sept. 29th venison feast.

1783, July 21st.—Mr. Cook brought his son back to dinner from Andover, his own horse's knee demolished, his servant's horse so lame as to be left under ye farrier's care. Mr. Dale brought his son back from Blandford to dinner in a whiskey. Invited to dine at Dr. Smith's. Mr. C. went. Venison foetid.

1781, Sept. 8th.—Dined at Mr. Gauler's, Weyhill, with Mr. Crookshank, Barrett, Gray, &c. Venison, Champagne, and Pine Apple.

1784, Feb. 7th.—Cheese, a very fine old Cheshire received from London, weighed 60lbs., a present from Brother Thomas: Do. cut this evening. Shrub 2 galls. b[t] from Mr. Bunny's. Cheese cut from Parsonage ye 3rd.

1780, Sept. 16th.—Mr. and Mrs. Powlett dined here; brought the Garden of Eden wall fruit, Grapes, and the finest Cantaeleupe Melon, weighed 9lb., ye flesh near 4 inches in thickness!

1780, Sept. 4th.—Dined at Mr. Foyle's West Cholderton, with Mr. and Mrs. Ekins; fine Pine Apple in ye dessert. Cool even.

1782, July 17th.—Jno. Cooke set out this morn for Stockbridge on Minny, Rob[t]. on Carley's Hack; bought 150 crayfish at 7s. 6d. sent do. at night to Andover to go by ye coach to Bro. B. L[r]. from Mr. Fielden 8d., and T[r]. P. 1d. L[r]. from Mr. Fielden Lango, brought next day.

1783, May 1st.—Trouts begin to come up ye Brook in pursuit of minnows. About 200 minnows were caught last Saturday and dressed, nearly as good to eat as gudgeons.

1783, April 30th.—Two brace of fine cucumbers sent from Redenham. Received a fine present of salmon and lobsters from Mr. Cooke, Christ Church, came by a P. chaise from Sarum; should have been brought by T. Burr last night.

The notices of tea parties are innumerable, very valuable as giving the names of local people, but otherwise generally of no particular interest. One room in the house appears to have gone by the name of the "Tea Room." There are but two allusions to the china, so that our feelings are spared the coveting that might have suggested itself.

1784, January 13th.—Wedgwoods yellow earthenware shivered to pieces by ye frost by standing with water in it under garden pots.

1781, January 21st.—Received parcel of books from Bro. B. and a box china Bro. Woods.

1780, August 26th.—E$^{th}$. W., jun$^{r}$., picture put up in ye Tea Room; a remarkably good likeness.

1784, March 30th.—Mr. C. S. A. and C. H. W., and W. A. H., to Andover vesp. dinner, tea, Mr. D. Amport. Great riots at Andover Election, Town Hall windows broke, three hogshd beer let about ye street, &c.

1783, January 13th.—Twelfth Day Cake, a fine one presented by Mr. Berrett.

1780, February 14th.—Nine Valentines, at Munday's all day.

1781, November 6th.—Dined at Mr. Cane's and came back soon in expectation of playing off ye fireworks.

November 8th.—Bon Fire, seven sky rockets, four J$^{s}$. in a box, and five Roman candles.

Mr. White was also a cricketer, as appears from the following entries:—

1782, July 3rd.—Game of Cricket with Mr. Hy. &c. vesp. in ye Home Meadow.

1782, August 20th.—Played at cricket in Privet with Mr. Amy$^{d}$, &c. All wet through coming home.

The residence with the family at Fyfield Rectory, of young men of position who were preparing for the Universities, must have secured for the Whites a wider range of society than so retired a neighbourhood would have afforded. An entry under 4th March, 1784, explains the system:—

Sams$^{n}$ sett off ab$^{t}$ 8 mat to keep term at Oriel with H H W. Settled in full with Mr. Dale, whose son having resided here just three years goes to Ball. Coll. Oxford, as Gentn Comm$^{r}$. Sett off for Newbury abt 2 p.m. His books w$^{d}$ just 206lbs.

Another entry lets us into some of the domestic arrangements.

1784, February 10th—No fire lighted yet in ye School Room in ye Parsonage; lecture held in ye Nursery, the weather being too cold for a larger room.

In his scholastic work the Rector was assisted by several gentlemen, who among other subjects taught French, Drawing, Music, and Dancing. Mr. Wellman was the music master, Mr. Delarnelle took the French and drawing. Extracts have already been given which mention Mr. Wellman's concerts; he probably lived at Salisbury, and had a wide circle of pupils. Mr. Goodall was the dancing master, and is very frequently mentioned.

1781, July 13th—Mr. Goodall came the 1st time, improved and approved of by ye Vestris's and Gallani.
July 20th—Messrs. Delarnelle and Goodall absent on account of Sarum Races—ut semper gaudes illudere rebus Humanis.
August 31st—Grand Ballett under ye direction of Mr. Goodall.
December 14th—Mr. Goodall ye last time. Grand ball with the Starkie family.
1782, October 25th—Full Ball with Mr. Goodall. Mr. H$^{y}$. came from Andover.

The Rev. — Cane whose son "Bob" was one of the pupils, also helped in the teaching. Mr. Cane lived some time at Kimpton Rectory and probably held the curacy of Shipton Bellinger. The Rev. — Goddard was also, I think, accustomed to give some assistance, he became afterwards Rector of Kimpton on the death of Mr. Foyle.

1784, May 22—Rev. Mr. Goddard S. Tidworth presented to ye Rectory of Kimpton yest$^{y}$ by G$^{s}$ Foyle Esq.
1784, August 2—Mr. Goddard inducted to Kympton P.M. Went to attend do.

The Rev. Samuel Topping was a great personal friend, and possibly a helper. We have an entry of his wife's burial.

1784, May 11—Mrs. Topping died before noon. Mr. P. Duke ill.
May 18—Buried Mrs. Topping near her uncle, the late Dr. Barnes, in Thruxton Chancel.

The Register of Thruxton records the interments mentioned in the diary.

1772.—The Rev$^{d}$. Dr. Joshua Barnes, Rector of this Parish, was buried Feb. the 14th.
1784, May 18th.—Buried, Catherine, wife of the Rev. Samuel Topping.

Assistance probably only in elementary subjects was also given by a Mr. Hedderly, of Appleshaw. The Mr. Dale mentioned above was George Dale, of Ruddleston, co. Hereford, Gent. The son, John Dale, who matriculated at Baliol College, Oxford, 12 December, 1781, at the age of 17, took the degree of B.C.L. 1788, and D.C.L. 1793. The pupil

who figures most conspicuously in the diaries is Sir Philip Houghton Clarke, of Shirland, whose pedigree may be thus condensed :—

Sir Simon Woodchurch K^t^ married Susan daughter and heiress of Henry Clarke and had issue two sons, Simon, who married Adrian Fortescue, and Clarke Woodchurch who inheriting his mother's estates adopted the name of Clarke and had issue. Peter Clarke, alias Woodchurch, whose son Sir John Clarke, fought at Poictiers whose descendant Walter Clarke of Ratcliffe, co. Bucks married Elizabeth, daughter of Simon Edolph of St. Radigans, co. Kent, and had issue :—Sir Simon Clarke created a Baronet 1 May, 1617, and died 1642 ; he married Margaret, daughter and heiress of John Alderford of Abbots Salford, co. War., and had issue three sons, John, second Bart., who died s.p., Peter, killed in 1639, and Sir Simon Clarke, third Bart., who died in 1687. He married Mercy, daughter of Philip Brace of Doverdale, co. Wark, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Sir Simon Clarke, fourth Bart., who died 1718 ; he married a daughter of the Rev. Castle and was succeeded by his only child, Sir Simon Peter Clarke, R.N., who dying without issue the title reverted to his cousin, Sir Simon Clarke [eldest son of Philip, the second son of Sir Simon the third Bart.] who married Mary daughter of Philip Bonny, Esq., of Jamaica and had issue, Sir Simon Clarke, seventh Baronet who married Anne, daughter and co-heir of Philip Houghton, Esq., the great Jamaica planter, and had issue, Sir Philip Houghton Clarke, who succeeded in 1777, but died unmarried, and the title devolved upon his brother.

The first entry mentioning him is

1780, February 29th.—Sir Philip Houghton Clarke and Mr. Poore arrived from London.

From that time he went about with the Whites everywhere. We read of his horse, his piano, his pictures, his plaster casts, his books, his prints by Albert Durer, until on

1782, January 29th.—Sir Philip Houghton Clarke left this place to live with his mother in Town. Jno. White rode almost to Winton with him on Charley's nag.

1782, February 8th.—Packed up and corded S. P. H. C.'s boxes etc. last night young Nash came to do it.

4 Square Deal Boxes
1 Small long Do
1 Thin Small Case
1 Roll on Straw ye Easel Frame.

He came down at intervals to visit his old friends, but not to stay long.

The White's nearest neighbour was their medical adviser who was besides a great personal friend, Mr. Philip Henry Poore (grandfather of Major P. H. Poore, of Andover), then quite a

young man, having been born in 1765. He lived in the house now occupied by Mr. Neate. His son, the Rev. Philip Henry Poore, was Rector of Fyfield, but died young in 1837. There are other friends of the name of Poore very frequently mentioned, and without a few words of explanation it will not be easy to distinguish them. The family of Poore, of Wiltshire and Hampshire, is one of the most ancient in the country. They probably came out of Gloucestershire in the twelfth century. And the complete working out of the pedigree is a duty still owing to those three counties. The offshoot of the family in America has grown to very great importance. A most remarkable and interesting gathering of those bearing the name in the United States was held at Newburyport, Massachusetts, on September 14th, 1881, an account of which was printed in New York.

Edward Poore, of Salisbury, M.P. for New Sarum and a Wiltshire Judge, died 19th May, 1780, and was buried at Salisbury, where he had lived, but although this date is within the period covered by these diaries I do not think he is alluded to. Smart Poore, by his wife Elizabeth, left two sons, whose names Mr. White very frequently mentions—Edward Poore, of Tidworth, who died in 1787, and George Webb Poore, of Devizes, who is called the "Counsellor." He married a daughter of — Philips, of Devizes, and had issue Edward Poore, of Tidworth, who resided for the most part abroad and died at Rome in 1803, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Jane. A portrait of "Counsellor Poore" hangs in the dining room at Thruxton Rectory. Elizabeth, his daughter, was married to W. Dyke, of Syrencot, in the parish of Figheldean, Wilts, Esq., who on inheriting the property of his maternal uncle, Edward Poore, of Tidworth (the younger), assumed the name of Dyke-Poore. He was the grandfather of Mrs. Baker, of Thruxton. An interesting mention of his seat is here quoted :—

1783, May 16th.—Rode with E.W., jun., C.H.W., and dined at Syren Cot quite a single tract over ye wide Down, shady pleasent riding though the hottest day this year, much water remaining in long bottom of ye Land Springs from the back of Chidbury Hill. Mrs. W. could not go, went to bed ill of a cold. Two of ye little Pigs killed by ye sows lying on them, 1 last night 1 to-day. Downs look more brown and bare than ever remembered, many farmers think they must return to foddering with hay, some in ye Avon Bourn have actually begun. Mr. Dyke says Polygala Bloom looks bright among the brown grass. Barley said to advance from 30 shillings to 36 shillings at Warminster Market. The most magnificent

Horse Chestnut Tree ever seen is now growing in Mr. Dyke's garden in vast vigour and strength, and seems not to have attained to its full size, its bloom is destroyed and leaves injured by the late frost. He moved the fence of his garden to take this tree in from ye meadow adjoining. Beech trees scorched totally brown as in D^er^ in ye plantations at S. Tidworth at ye NW corner.

Mr. Pugh, however, takes the place of medical adviser, and the diaries give no further indication of Mr. P. H. Poore's movements.

1780, Feb. 12th.—Rode to induct Mr Thos Fountaine into ye Rectory of N Tidworth dined at Mr. Poore's.

This is Mr. Edward Poore, the younger, who died 1803.

1781, May 28th.—Noble piece of salmon sent by Mr. Poore of Tidworth, in high season. Ground very hard and dry; young shoots of Oaks &c.; sadly scorched by ye Frosty Morn^g^.—Influenza very afflicting and violent painful ab^t^ ye Face and Mouth, quite agonizing.

31st.—M. Pugh twice, Dr. Downe vesp to ye sick—sad house. Lucy much worse Jno W. very ill bothe bled by Jno Tapp.

July 16th.—Showers before noon, but cleared away p.m, Seems to promise dry weather. Couns^r^ Poore at Tidworth S^r^. P. H. C. and Sam. Served Thruxton.

Oct. 11.—Served Fyfield at 9 Ma^t^. S Tidworth at half-past eleven called at Mr. Smiths. Mr. Townsend and son dined at Mr. Poores with S. P. H. C., ye Coun^s^, and Ja W returned early, vesp cloudy and dark. Mr. Dale and H. W to Andover.

1782, Jan. 21.—Rode to Mr. Poores with Sam to dine with Mr. Fountaine, and the Tenants, ret^d^ to Tea with ye Couns^r^. Sam and B^b^ Cane to Andover with Do vesp.

1783, March 15th.—Mr. Pugh came to Master Halliday. Do blooded, has been bad with a cold ever since Tuesday.

Sometimes we sigh for the "good old times"—sometimes we do not. Entries like this are about as good as anything to modify longings for the past, and stifle such sentimental sighs. Many of the great houses of the neighbourhood are described briefly, or rather Mr. White sets down his opinions and impressions about them.

Hurstborne Park, which was built by the second Earl of Portsmouth, did not command his unbounded admiration. The house was unhappily burnt down in 1891.

1782, September 14th.—Rode to L^d^ Portsmouth's new House with Mr. Metz, Mr. Dale, and C. H. W. Roads violently dusty, hard and disagreeable. Hurstbourne House, a vast enormous pile, strong building, very little ornamented, on a bleak uncouth and uncomfortable situation, but ye Apartments spacious and magnificent.

1784, May 13th.—Went with Mr. C. to Mr. Ekins. Do returned from Ireland. Bp. of Killala if he pleases. Rec^d^ Messrs. Barton

and Heyes. Saw Wilbury House, &c., a very beautiful spot and elegantly planted, some good pictures and 2 or 3 grand rooms, the chambers raised 7 feet high to 14 feet and consequently the whole roof taken off; ornaments of ye pleasure grounds rather uncouth, delightful shady lawn close behind.

Ramridge House, in the Parish of Weyhill, a fine specimen of Adams's work, was another building Mr. White did not so much admire. The park is still remarkable, as it was in the time of Edward III., for its very fine trees, but the Rector observes with an evident shake of the head.

1780, December 18th.—Walked to Ramridge with Sir P. H. C. &c. p.m. a very large and expensive house and too lofty for the country.

July 24.—Rode to Ramridge vesp. with Bessy &c. lime bloom, fine perfume.

August 23.—Sir P. H. C. Mr. W., Mr. Metz, and Bessy rode to Ramridge vesp.

December 4th.—Sent ye picture home to Ramridge.

Most likely one by Mr. Metz.

1782, October 11th.—Dined at Ramridge with brother Benj$^{n}$ house most elegently finished two most superb looking glasses in ye Drawing room said to have cost originally at Paris £500 each; very dark walk home. Messrs Leversuch and Crookshanks and several ladies from London visiting Mr. Gaules.

1784, April 17th.—Dined at Ramridge with Mr. W., Mrs. Wallop and Miss Bailey and Messrs. Chamberlain, Barlow and Haynes great cutting down and grubbing up sed quantum mutatus ab illo.

The Manor of Ramridge, now the property of Ewelm College, Oxfordshire, was once owned by Geoffrey Chaucer, the poet. It's history may, it is hoped be more completely worked out in connection with Weyhill Fair.

The estate was purchased in 1858 by M. H. Marsh, Esq., M.P. There are many entries in the Diary alluding to Mr. Talbot, a gentleman I have not satisfactorily identified; I am open to correction but I think that he must have lived in the mansion at Quarley, subsequently the residence of the Cox family, which was pulled down many years ago. Mr. Talbot was a great sportsman and kept a pack of hounds, which he used at times for deer hunting.

Genial, scholarly and talented as Mr. White must have been, it is no wonder that he was fond of company, especially if there happened to be music, or that he was always a most welcome guest. He was very much given to outdoor exercise, and frequently mentions the keen delight he found in his walks and rides, that such a lover of nature was fond of dogs

goes without saying and there are many entries in his diaries in which he alludes to his dogs in affectionate terms : the following anecdote of one of them, which was told me by W. White, Esq., F.S.A., the Rector's grandson, is worth preserving :—"He kept several sporting dogs, which were admitted to the house. One winter evening an old pointer, lying on the hearthrug, started up barking ; having been let out she returned in a short time to her repose. The next morning some rails were found broken up and ready to be carried away. The depredator had been disturbed by the dog which had detected the trespass notwithstanding the number of persons passing close by along the high road." Fond of his dogs and his gun and with a warm appreciation of sport, the Rector did not recognise the real character of true sport in the so-called "deer hunts."

1782, January 15th.—Mr. Talbot's hounds brought a doe through the village, and took her alive in Farmer Berrett's rick yard. She had run, it was computed, about 15 miles; yet looked lively and brisk.

January 16th.—The doe carried to Grately in a cart, poor animal, to be persecuted again.

1784, December 4th.—Deer taken at Thruxton by Mr. Talbot's hounds ; after a long chaise it was caught in Conholt Wood by ye fox hounds, having strayed from ye pen at Grately in ye summer. The Prince of Wales expected to hunt deer with Mr. Talbot this morning at Sarson Copse, to come with Mr. Fitzroy from Dowles Lodge, but prevented by ye weather.

The Prince of Wales was of course afterwards George IV. ; he did come in 1795, and on November 4th of that year hunted at Clatford Oakcuts. C. F. Randolph, Esq., J.P., of Kimpton Lodge, has a bureau which was purchased at the sale at the house at Quarley, and the tradition clings to it that when he was visiting at the house it was used by the Prince of Wales to keep his "George" in.

The Rector went in for coursing, as witness the following entry, which, if it were dealt with as it ought to be, would take several pages of notes to itself :—

1781, Dec. 4th.—Went out coursing with T. H. W., Sam., Chas., Gil. and Bob Cane to see ye Norfolk gentl$^{n}$ near Tidworth. Many horses, but too many people spoiled the sport and baulked the hares from running up the hills, consequently many caught. About 100 people, E of Orford, L$^{d}$ G. Lennox, 2 other Genl$^{s}$, Howe and Pitt, Mrs. Howe and Mrs. Pitt, Dean of Sarum, &c., &c., Sir Jno Rouse, Sir G. Paul.

1781, Dec. 7th.—Boys went after the Norfolk gentl$^{n}$ who were coursing near Lavington, therefore contented themselves with a course near Snoddington, and brought home a fine hare.

Of the distinguished company mentioned above some may easily be identified, the "E of Orford" was George, third Earl of Orford, a lord of the bedchamber, and ranger of St. James's and Hyde Parks, who succeeded to the title in 1751, and died unmarried December 5th, 1791, when the honours reverted to his uncle, the celebrated Horace Walpole, who became fourth Earl, and died 1797. It was George, the third Earl, who disposed of the splendid collection of pictures made by his grandfather, Sir Robert Walpole, first Earl of Orford.

Sir George Onesiphorus Paul, of Rodborough, was the son of Sir Onesiphorus Paul of Rodborough, co. Gloucester, created a baronet 3rd September, 1762.

General Lord George Lennox, M.P. for Sussex, was the second son of Charles, second Duke of Richmond, he married Louisa, daughter of the Marquis of Lothian, and died in 1805; his son Charles succeeded his uncle as fourth Duke.

General Howe must have been the distinguished commander in the American War.

* Was General Pitt the son of "Diamond Pitt" who in 1716 had built Abbots Anne Church?

It is highly probable that the "Norfolk Gentlemen" was the name of a club, and while on this coursing tour the members most likely made their headquarters at Amesbury. Mr. Assheton Smith, the elder, was living in the neighbourhood at the time; but not in Tedworth House as it is now, because that did not receive its present shape until 1828. If there was any house near at which such guests were more likely at that date to be quartered at than another it would probably be the Mansion at Quarley, for there was a sporting master.

An interesting entry in the Diary for the year 1781 records a visit paid by Mr. White to Amesbury House :—

> 1781, February 20th.—Expedition to ye Duke of Queensbury's and Stonehenge, "Metaque fervidis vix avitata rotis." "Thus ye ancient Druids," &c. Excellent Shrub, Ch. Brandy, &c. House at Amesbury much altered by ye present Duke, the approach now on the side next the turnpike.
>
> Pictures likewise differently placed and some taken away. Lady Forbes and Lady Clarendon possess the other half of this grand collection of portraits by Vandyke and Lely, which were formerly all to be seen together at Corubury Lodge, Oxfordshire.

* General Pitt was probably Sir William Augustus Pitt, K.B., of Heckfield, Hants, who was a general in the army; he was the youngest son of George Pitt, Esq., of Strathfieldsaye; he died December, 1809.

E. D. W.

1781, February 22nd.—Paper covering at ye Duke of Queensbury's new kitchen and cart house; very light, beautiful and elegant, but query whether durable, and how expensive!

William Douglas, third Earl of March, fourth Duke of of Queensbury, was created an English peer August, 1786, by the title of Baron Douglas of Amesbury. He died unmarried 1810. The parish of Kimpton adjoins Fyfield, and in its quaint old church Mr. White frequently took service for the Rector, the Rev. Edward Foyle [senior], who was non-resident. Mr. Foyle, who had succeeded in 1750 the Rev. William Goodenough in the living of Kimpton, held the stall of "Minor pars Altaris" in Salisbury Cathedral; he lived at ths Manor House, West Cholderton. The diaries record:—

1784, April 19th.—Served Kimpton Church 10th time.
26th.—Mr. Foyle returned to Kimpton Church.
May 3rd.—Served Kimpton Church again, making 11th time. Mr. Foyle ill and remains at Bath.
10th.—Served Kimpton Church again 12th time. News arrived that Mr. Foyle died at Bath last Friday.
17th.—Went to serve Kimpton before 10, but returned not being wanted.

This Mr. Foyle was succeeded by the Rev. John Goddard, whose acquaintance we have already made while he was rector of Tedworth. He did not live long to enjoy his change, dying in 1785. Mr. Goddard was succeeded by the Rev. Edward Foyle [junior], son of the former Rector, whose daughter married the Rev. Charles Randolph, his successor at Kimpton. The present Chairman of the Bench and of the Board of Guardians of Andover, C. Foyle Randolph, Esq., M.A., of Kimpton Lodge, is the son of the last named Rector.

Here is the record of visits made and received during the month of January, 1780, as they are entered under the respective days. Just one word of introduction. I believe whenever Mr. White speaks of riding it is on horseback, as at this time, 1780, I do not think he had a carriage for the road; later he set up a "whisky," but when Mrs. White rode with him, I have no doubt it was on a pillion behind him.

1780, January 2—"Walked to Redenham; very thick fog and gentle thaw; Mr. Holt not at home." 3rd—"Went Famy. visit to Mr. Topps, No. 8 (i.e., eight in number); very warm close weather; some few drops, but wind bearing up to N." 4th—"Dined at Dr. Smith's. Venison." 6th—"Rode with Mrs. W. to Appleshaw,

p.m. Ground very cloggy; much ice in ponds, &c.; wheat nipped by ye frost in some places, and ye blade withered." 10th—"Mr. and Mrs. Berrett and Mr. Goodall to dinr. Rode to Abbott's Anne, Amport, &c., &c. Called on Mr. Burrough, Mr. Evans, Mr. D., &c." 11th—"Went to dinner at Mr. Andrews'. Very good riding on the turnpike; still weather and cloudy, nr. Ford." 14th—"Walked to Amport with Bessy and H. Woods." 15th—"Rode to Conholt Park with S. Gravelly roads, not bad. Mr. Scroggs and Fam. with Sir Sydney Meadows." 17th—"Rode to Appleshaw with 2 E. Ws. and H. Woods, and dined at Mrs. Butcher's, Mr. Holt, Pollens, &c. Ground very cloggy." 19th—"Mr. Powlett's family and Mr. Duke's to dinner; Mr. P. and Mrs. Duke unable to come." 21st—"Mr. Mebbot's fam. and Dr. Simson's dined here." 25th—"Dined at Redenham; J. A. and H. Wds., Celestina, &c."

To deal with this group of Rector White's friends first, there are some who will recur again and again we are sure about. "Mrs. W." was his wife. "S" was his son Sampson. The "2 E. Ws." were Mrs. White and their daughter Elizabeth, "Bessy." Henry Woods was a pupil, apparently on very friendly terms with the family, with whom he frequently went on their visits. Mr. and Mrs. Berrett and Mr. Goodall were, I am almost sure, farmers at Fyfield. It is natural to us to associate the name of Pollen with Redenham: but at the time these diaries were written it was the residence of Walter Holt, Esq., whose only daughter, Louisa, married in 1778, Mr. afterwards Sir John Pollen, created a Baronet 1795.

Mr. Holt rebuilt Redenham House, as the following entry in Mr. White's diary shows, at his death the estate passed to his son-in-law, Sir John Pollen, in whose family it remains to this day.

1784, December 1st—Dined at Redenham with two E.W$^{s}$. and C.H.W., met Dr. and Mrs. Elkins, Mr. Selwyn and B$^{r}$-in-law; Doe Venison. New house covered in and ye parapet raised, rough walking in Chapell lane.

So great is the interest of this neighbourhood in the most worthy family of Pollen, that I think I may be excused if I here give some part of their pedigree. I do this chiefly on the authority of Burke. Edward Pollen, of London, merchant, whose family had lived in Lincolnshire, died about 1636. His surviving son, John Pollen, of London, merchant, married Anne, daughter of William Bernard, Esqre., and widow of Nicholas Venables, of Andover, whose monument is on the S.E. wall of Andover Church. This John Pollen was

M.P. for Andover, and had a son, also named John Pollen, who was also M.P. for Andover, who was thrice married. By his 1st wife Elizabeth, daughter of Philip Jackson, of London, he had a son Edward, with whom we are not just now concerned. By his second wife, Frances, daughter of Edward Exton, Esqre., he had a son, John, who died young; and by his third wife, Mary, daughter of Edward Sherwood, Esqre., he had a son, also John Pollen, and also M.P. for Andover, the third in succession of that name. He was one of the judges of Wales. He married Hester, daughter of Paulet St. John, Esqre., of Dogmersfield Park. His daughter, Elizabeth, married George Hungerford, Esqre., of Studley, in Wiltshire. He was succeeded by his son, also John Pollen, afterwards Sir John Pollen, being created a baronet in 1795. He was first of the name at Redenham. He married first, 1778, Louisa, daughter of Walter Holt, Esqre., of Redenham, who died 18th July, 1798, his second wife was Charity Ann, daughter and co-heir of Richard Southby, Esqre., of Bulford, Wilts, who died 1830. Sir John Pollen, first baronet, died 17th August, 1814. He had two sons. His eldest son, Sir John Walter Pollen, born 6th April, 1784, and died 2nd May, 1863, had no issue by his wife, Charlotte Elizabeth, only daughter of the Rev. John Craven, of Chilton House, Wilts, who died 7th October, 1877. The second son of Sir John Pollen, first baronet, was Richard Pollen, of Lincoln's Inn, and Rodbourne, Wilts; born 17th April, 1786, married 14th January, 1815, Anne, daughter of Samuel Pepys Cockerell, Esqre., of Westbourne, Middlesex. He died 7th February, 1838; his son succeeding to the title of his uncle became Sir Richard Hungerford Pollen, third baronet. On his death in April, 1881, he was succeeded by his son the present baronet.

The Pollen's coat of arms is Az. on a bend, cotised or, between six lozenges arg.; each charged with an escallop sable, five escallops vert. The crest is a pelican, wings expanded in her nest, per pale or and az., vulning herself and feeding her young proper; charged on the wing with a lozenge arg., thereon an escallop sable. It is clear, then, that the Mr. Pollen who so frequently figures in these diaries is the John fourth of that name, who was afterwards created a baronet.

I am indebted to John Dudman, Esq., of Rosslyn Hill, Hampstead, for the manuscript in "fair copy" of several

poems and translations, from which the covers have been torn, by S. C., an Andover poet who was writing in 1710.

One of these odes, in imitation of Horace, is inscribed to "Charles Lord Halifax, the great Mæcenas of our Nation;" another is headed, "A New Year's Gift to his much esteemed Friend, Mr. Robert Waller, of Gosport." The two I quote are given rather from their local interest than from the impression of very high merit.

### An Epitaph

On Mary the wife of the Worshipfull John Pollen, Esq., of Andover, who died.

O Traveller, be kind and just
To this most rich and noble dust;
These marble pedestals don't greet
With thy polluted hands or feet.
No less than Sherwood's daughter dear
And Pollen's wife is bury'd here;
Who was of daughters, sure, the best
With whom a father e'er was blest,
And when he did resign his breath
And body to all conquering death,
She was so loving to her mother
The world despairs of such another.
'Tis Pollen only best can tell
How she did act a wife's part well;
'Tis he alone can best tell you
Her vertues and her graces too,
And how on earth her short abode
Was spent i'th service of her God.
The needy were her constant care,
They'd all the time that she could spare.
She heal'd their sores and cur'd their wants,
And answer'd all their just complaints;
Nay she apply'd with her own hands
Fitt med'cines to their loathsom wounds.
All of her children found from her
Such tender and indulgent care,
That scarce her equall can be found
In English or in any ground;
And quickly after two were dead *
Her own breath from her body fled.
Weep not! But roses strew arounnd her toombe,
And, as she did for her, prepare for thy own doom.

S. C.

* Mrs. Mary and Mr. Richard.

## An Elegy

Occasioned by the death of Mary the wife of John Pollen, Esq., of Andover.

Oh cruell fates, and thou, too, cruell death,
Why dost thou with invaluable breath
Thus make thy sports? And why dost thou refuse
To give some respite to a breathless muse?
Would it not satiate thee the fruit to take?
But must thou also ev'n the body break
From whence it sprang, which might have yielded more
Hadst thou not thus its very vitalls tore.
I'd almost said thou bears't a spite, O death,
*Against the best of familys on earth.
For this I grieve, for this I make my mone;
And 'tis for this my muse makes such a doleful tone,
And that with justice; for the choicest wife
To the best husband hath resigned her life.
Oh how shall I give vent unto my tears?
My tongue is dumb, my muse opprest with fears,
Lest she should mong great Pollen's lady's fame
With verse that's bald, verse that is weak and lame—
But without this; I can't the duty do
Which I to her transcendent Merritts owe,
Whom I may justly say was great and good;
For, sure, her vertue was ally'd t'her blood,
Which from no less a Family did spring
Than Sherwood's; lofty for my muse to sing!
Her piety and goodness were too high
For such an humble muse as mine to fly.

Her converse pleasing was, with proffitt join'd,
She always curteous was and always kind,
And condescending to the lowly mind.

Unto her precious memory the poor
Owe grateful thanks, for making many a cure
On them when vex'd with dismall sores and blains,
E'en crazed with grief for their excessive pains.
If she is dead, cry they, we cannot live,
Who long did by her charity survive,
Joyn'd with a knowledge in the healing Art,
Which God to her did librally impart.

And for a wife search all the kingdom round;
For goodness scarce her equall can be found
To her dear spouse (th' Almighty grant that he
A long, long blessing on the earth may be).
I say her love to that great man was such
That she thought nothing in the world too much
To do for him, who to return her love
Gave his, resembling what they do above.
Heav'n to this couple gave so vast a store
Of happiness in love, they could not wish for more;

* Two of her children dying some time before her.

Nay, but one thing was wanting to compleat
This happines substantiall, 'twas so great,
Which was (pitty 't had not) a longer date.

I never heard, nor ever yet could find
A mother so indulgent and so kind,
As she t'her children was, the darlings of her mind.

Nay, to her meniall servants; always she
So calm and condescending us'd to be,
As if they were almost her fellow quality.

But ah! my muse at length is weary grown,
Allready she to such a pitch hath flown;
Consid'ring, too, that she must higher fly
If she her untold vertues would descry,
Which are above the clouds; nay, e'en above the sky.
Besides surveying what's already done,
My watery eyes quite stopt her going on.

S.C. (1711.)

Conholt Park comes in for Rector White's enthusiastic admiration :—

1780, December 5th.—Rode with Sir P. H. C., and spent the day with Sir Sidney Meadows, Mr. Scroggs and Fam$^{y}$ at Conholt Park. Walked round do., the most lovely scenery of evergreens possible to be imagined. The deer in Sir Sidney Meadow's Park remarkably fine and large.

1782, July 24th.—Rode to Conholt Park, Sir Sidney making hay and building barns. Wheat looks strong and well, some laid very much by ye rains, other corn prosperous but rather late, hay cutting at Ramridge, much spoilt at Clanville and much standing in and about ye park.

September 2nd.—Mr. Wentworth with Mr. A—— and Chas: to Conholt park, beautiful day and prospects, Isle of Wight seen very clearly. Alfred's Column at Mr. Hoar's very visible in ye morn. Fine haunch of venison for D$^{r}$. Mr. Dale to Amesbury on Sancho, and to Stonehenge.

September 4th.—Sir Sidney Meadows horses in the most exquisite accuracy of discipline in the menage, and very beautiful in this form. The master a miracle of the most alert agility.

The great importance to local history, as well as the eminence of the persons themselves, calls imperatively for a short pedigree of the families connected with Conholt.

Daniel Meedowe, of Chatisham, born 1577, died 1651, by his wife Elizabeth had a son, Sir Philip Medows, Ambassador to Denmark and Sweden, born 1625, died 16 September, 1718, who married Constance, daughter of Sir Thos. Lucy, of Charlecote, and had issue Sir Philip Medows, Knight Marshal of the King's Palace, died 3 December 1757, who married Dorothy, sister of Henry Boscawen, 1st Viscount Falmouth, and had issue three sons and five daughters; the

eldest son is the Sir Sidney Meadows, of Conholt, who succeeded his father as marshal of the palace, and married Jemima, daughter of the Hon. Chas. Montague, youngest son of the first Earl of Sandwich, but died in 1792, s.p. He was succeeded by his brother, Philip Meadows, Esq., Deputy Ranger of Kichmond Park, who married the Lady Frances, daughter of William Pierrepoint, Earl of Kingston; their son Charles, born 14 November, 1737, assumed the name of Pierrepoint, and on the death of his uncle, the second Duke of Kingston, was created 23 July, 1796, Baron Pierrepoint and Viscount Newark, and made Earl Manvers 9 April, 1806. He married Anne Orton, daughter of John Mills, Esq., of Richmond, who died 24 August, 1832. They had issue Charles Herbert, second Earl, and the Rt. Hon. Henry Manvers Pierpoint, of Conholt Park, P.C., formerly envoy to the Court of Denmark, born 18 March, 1780, died 10 November, 1851, who married the Lady Sophia, daughter of Henry, 1st Marquis of Exeter, who died 1823; their daughter Lady Charles Wellesley, the late owner of Conholt, was the wife of Lord Charles Wellesley, son of the great Duke of Wellington, died 9 October, 1858, and whose sons are the present Duke of Wellington and Lord Arthur Wellesley.

Rector White expresses an opinion on Biddesden House, which we shall not all agree with. The first visit of the writer to that most intensely interesting place, was an experience never to be forgotten. The drive through grounds ornamented with trees of immense age, passing on the way to the house part of the terraced garden with its bowling alleys, brought us to a building, the façade of which has certainly not been altered since it was built by General Webb, one of Marlborough's most distinguished officers, who will live for ever in the pages of Thackeray's "Esmond." When the door closed behind us it seemed to shut out the nineteenth century altogether, and transport one as by magic into the time of the gallant General, whose picture on a very large scale faces the door. The kitchen and its smokejack, vast table and dresser, the meat safe approached by a stair, standing in the quaintest of "quads," the furniture, such a collection as but seldom feasts the eyes of a lover of things ancient, very much of it probably the General's own, and the china!!! It is necessary even in reminiscence to insist on the fact that "other men's goods" are not to be coveted.

The Webbs sold the property to the Everetts, and it is probably this sale which Mr. White refers to.

1782, September 30th.—"Went to Biddesdon Sale Exhibition, ye house melancholy; ye situation ill chosen and ye furniture very indifferent, most unfortunate specimens of taste, particularly in Prints."

Mr. White gives the old and nearly forgotten name of Blissamore Hall to Clanville Lodge, now the residence of Mrs. Faith. What the club held there was I do not know. Tradition points to the fine chestnut trees in the field, called the "Grove," at Penton, as the remains of an avenue once extending to that house.

1783, January 20th.—"Walked to Sir Sidney Meadows with Sam and Chas., found do. gone out, walked round ye park after do. Mr. and Mrs. Scroggs and Miss there, her bro. gone to dine with ye Lunatic Club at Blissamore Hall. Very rough and hard walking; ret[d] home near midnight, much driving snow all ye way."

In Penton Mewsey, at the Lodge, now the seat of Mr. and Lady Susan Sutton, Mr. Crookshanks was then living, with whom the Fyfield parson was on terms of intimacy.

1782, October 17th.—"Rode to Penton after Breakfast to treat about Mr. Crookshank's black mare. Presented with his remnant of claret, 19 bottles."

19th.—"Claret br[t] home in Buckland's cart, horse ran away with the cart and greatly endangered the cargo."

22nd.—"Mr. Crookshank's auction at Penton began yes[ty], finished to-day. Bought his black mare for £7, large looking-glass at £2 16s, oval do. at £2 3s, total £11 19s. Bought also ye garden stone roller for Mr. Cane at 11s. Articles above £11 19s—£12 10s."

23rd.—"Mr. Crookshank called to take leave. Looking-glasses br[t] home and fixed up in ye Drawing-room."

It was to Penton Lodge Mr. Thomas Assheton Smith came in 1826 and stayed here till 1828, when having effected many alterations at Tedworth House after his father's death he removed thither, but it was to Penton he brought his bride, Maria, second daughter of William Webber, Esq., of Binfield Lodge, Berks. There are many occasions on which his father's name is mentioned, but nothing particular said about him. We shall find the better known foxhunter figuring in the log books of the Rev. C. H. White.

Very many interesting allusions to the persons and places just named will be found in Sir John E. Eardley-Wilmot's "Reminiscences of Thomas Assheton Smith, Esq."

The most noble family of Paulet will be famous as long as English history is read, but it had more local centres in this part of Hampshire in the seventeeth and eighteenth centuries than it has now, so that we claim a closer interest in it, than that which we share with the rest of the county. There was a settlement at Knights Enham, which I have not yet cleared up, but the branch at Hurstbourne Tarrant is intimately connected with the head of the family at Amport, the seat of the premier Marquis of England. The Whites of Fyfield continued on terms of intimate friendship with the family at Amport, and mention of them is continually occurring in the diaries. Another family in the same village named Duke were in the same pleasant circle of friends.

1782, February 3rd.—Mr. Powlett called.
May 18th.—Mr. Powlett, jun., called.
July 10th.—Mrs. Powlett and Mrs. and Miss Duke to tea.
1781, February 1st.—Mr. Powlett's painted glass arrived in a trunk.
February 26th.—Mr. Powlett, lawn levelling and ground forming.
February 13th.—Sent the painted glass to Amport, vesp.
August 16th.—Borrowed Mr. Powlett's telescope; it is a very fine clear reflector for day objects, but alas! the Planets are too far off.
August 18th.—Jupiter's satellites tolerably distinct through the telescope.
October 4th.—Sent Mr. Powlett's Reflecting Telescope home by Sop, and a Truckle cheese.
1782, January 25th.—Rode to Mr. Duke's, a.m., put string in ye Piano. Andover Gazette, &c. Dined at Mr. Powlett's, received in full for cheese. The new approach to Amport House forming.

The Mr. Powlett so often referred to must, I feel sure, have been George, youngest son of Norton Powlett, Esq., of Amport, by his wife Jane, daughter of Sir Charles Worsley, of Droxford. He succeeded in 1794 as 12th Marquis of Winchester; he married Martha, daughter of Thomas Ingoldsby, Esq. Mr. White died in 1788, which was before his friend came into his title, but in the Log Books of his son, the Rev. C. H. White, he is spoken of at once (*i.e.*, 1795) as Lord Winchester.

The painted glass mentioned in the diary may very probably be that still to be seen in Amport Church in the window of the transept which forms the Marquis's pew. Some of it at any rate is seventeenth century, though it is now leaded in with modern glass.

George, 12th Marquis of Winchester, died 22nd April, 1800.

There is, however, an interesting alliance in this branch of the family. We must not pass over without notice Lord

Henry Pawlett, second surviving son of William, 4th Marquis —settled at Amport, and married Lucy, daughter of Sir George Philpott, of Thruxton, who lived where Mr. Bailey lives now, and an account of the troubles of whose family will be found in *Hants Notes and Queries*, Vol. v. p. 8.

The Mr. Pawlett, afterwards 12th Marquis, mentioned above, was the issue of this marriage.

I am indebted to Mrs. Straton, of Wilton, for the use of the "Log Books" for 1795, 1797, and 1798, which were kept by the Rev. Charles Henry White, who lived on in the same house after his father's death. This gentleman married, 3rd, June, 1802, Christian, daughter of Alexander St. Barbe, Esq. She died 9th June, 1806, aged 22, and is buried at Fyfield. He continued to "serve" some of the churches his father had officiated in.

It will not be necessary to give very many extracts from his "Log Books," which have but comparatively few observations, and are almost entirely lacking in the quaint and graphic detail that distinguishes his father's journals. As will be seen, they carry down the histories and notices for fourteen years, but in most cases the entries are explained by what has already been said. The Rev. C. H. White died 25th October, 1859.

1795, Jan 1st.—A robin in Fyfield Copse so tamed by the cold as to follow S.W. when shooting and settle some time on his gun.

Mr. Powlett had now come into his title, and we note,

1795, January 4th.—C.H.W. served Tidworth 6th time. S.W. and C.H.W. dined at Lord Winchester's.
January 9th.—Mr. Asheton Smith called, walked from Tidworth.
January 24th.—Wild goose shot in the meadows.
July 12th.—C.H.W. called at Mr. Ashton Smith's. Sir John Pollen called. T.H.W. arrived from London on horseback.
July 22,—S.W. and C.H.W. to the visitation at Andover. C.H.W. to Enham Sale.

Probably this sale was at Enham Place on the death of David Dewar, Esq., who died at Milford, near Lymington, December, 1794.

1795, November 11th.—S.W, to Oxford, on horseback to Newbury. Mr. Foyle called. Settled Kimpton Curacy.
1797, February 13th.—Sent Dick to Romsey to swear in as substitute for S.W. in the Provincial Cavalry. Sir Thos. Champneys called.
April 11th.—The Prince of Wales's Hounds at Abbots Anne Wood. The Prince, who is visiting at Mr. Cox's, hunting with them; very large field.

April 12th.—Mr. Cox's Hounds with Bag Fox and Box Hares at Juniper Hill; good sport. The Prince of Wales, etc., with them.

May 12th.—May Day kept; dancers pretty numerous notwithstanding the showery weather. A battle threatened between Man Lansley and Waters, of Thruxton.

June 24.—S.W. to Stockbridge with Dick to have his uniform, &c., for the Cavalry.

September 9th.—Agreed with Old Hutchins for Dick's wages to be four guineas for the next year.

December 14th.—Mr. Asheton Smith's Election at Andover.

December 19th.—Thanksgiving Day for Naval Victories.

1798, April 4th.—C.H.W. to Andover to appeal against the Taxed Cart being surcharged as a one horse chaise. A meeting of rogues and fools.

May 8th.—The whisky, alias Taxed Cart, taken to pieces, the seat made into a garden chair.

July 16th.—C.H.W. to Andover to appeal about Tax Cart; got off the surcharge.

July 20th.—Began erasing the crest from the books in consequence of New Tax.

July 21st.—Sent spoons, &c., to have the crests taken out.

August 21st.—S.W. with his Bride, late Miss F. White, arrived from Selborne to dinner.

September 4th.—Part of the Gloucester Militia passed over Fyfield field in 20 waggons, on their way to Ireland, by a forced march they go fifty miles a day.

November 29th.—Thanksgiving Day for Lord Nelson's Victory over the French, large congregation, bell ringing, &c.

December 22nd.—The parlour chimney Romfordized.

The youngest son of Rector Henry White, who we read of in his very earliest days in the diaries, the Rev. Francis Henry White, was chaplain in the Royal Navy from 1811 to 1814, before he became Vicar of the first Medity of Pattishall. He too kept a "Log Book" of similar character for over fifty years without intermission, but I have not seen it. In all probability more of the volumes of the Diaries from which we have quoted are in existence, and may some day furnish further extracts of interest.

Enough has, however, been given to show the thoroughly typical character of the family to which we owe the delightful History of Selborne. The family is still abundantly represented by its members, who are distinguished in various professions, and as a family seem to have made Gilbert White's aspiration their common motto.

I was born and bred a gentleman and hope I may be allowed to die such.

And I think our delight in his graceful writings is

increased by a greater knowledge of his belongings, and their manners and customs.

I conclude with an extract from Gilbert White's letter to Robert Marsham, Esq., No. vii., 1792 :—

> Surely, my dear Sir, we live in a very eventful time, that must cut out much work for Historians and Biographers! but whether all these strange commotions will turn out to the benefit or disadvantage of old England, God only knows.

## CHAPTER II.

---

## KIMPTON.

Kimpton, as we see it on the Ordnance map, is the fifth in size of the parishes within the valley of the Anna; and in regard to population it stands in the ninth place. Andover, including Smannell and Hatherden, and enclosing the ancient parish of Knights Enham, so far exceeds all its rural neighbours, that comparison with them is hardly possible, its acreage being little short of twice and a half that of even the largest of them. Kimpton, however, with an area of 2710 acres, is only exceeded by Amport, Abbotts Ann, and Goodworth Clatford if Andover be omitted. It lies nearly due north and south, measured in which direction it is about three miles long, while from east to west it is two miles. It is bounded on the north by Ludgershall, and on the north-west by North Tedworth, both in Wilts, on the west by South Tedworth and Shipton Bellinger, on the south by Thruxton, and on the east by Fyfield.

In regard to levels the Bench marks show the lowest point to be just south of the Church, where the stream runs intermittently on its way through Fyfield, 254 feet above the sea. The highest point is just on the north-west boundary, where the road from Ludgershall comes in, 420 feet; so that the difference between the highest and lowest parts is 166 feet. Pickford Hill on the west is 400 feet, Kimpton Down Farm, 338, and Great Shoddesden, 327 feet. Whatever water there is or ever has been must have flowed out by the south-east corner of the parish, where are situated the Church, the old Rectory, and Kimpton Lodge.

None of the great Roman roads we know of ran near the parish; but the chief road shown on the map is the one which would take the traveller south eastward through Weyhill, Andover, and Harewood Forest to Micheldever, and north-west to Ludgershall.

KIMPTON CHURCH.

In the south-west corner of the parish near Pickford Hill is a Tumulus, which will call for further notice later on.

A comparatively small amount of wood exists; Kimpton Wood, Littleton Copse, and Newdown Copse are the principal, none of which are of great extent.

Having thus examined the physical features of the country we shall be the better prepared to inquire who have been the people inhabiting Kimpton in the past, and what have been their life's stories?

And first, it will be convenient to have a definite time to start from, and it is natural to make that starting point the Doomsday Survey.

We find there that within the area now forming the parish of Kimpton there had for a long long period been three manors — Shoddesden, Littleton, and Chemonstune — for Kimpton, after all, is but a comparatively modern form of the name. The account given stands thus :—

Hugh de Port holds Littleton, and Azor held it allodially of King Edward. It was then assessed at 5 hides and now at 5 yard lands. Here are 4 ploughlands, 2 in demesne and 5 villeins, and 6 borderers with 3 ploughlands. The woods are unproductive. Its value in the time of King Edward was ten shillings, and afterwards, and is now, four pounds. Hugh de Port holds Chemontune, and Goisfrid holds it under him, and Wenesi held it allodially of King Edward. It was then as now assessed at 2 hides. Here are three ploughlands, 2 in demesne, and 2 villeins and 8 borderers with 1 ploughland: also one servant and woods which are unproductive. The value in the time of King Edward was sixty shillings, afterwards forty shillings, and now four pounds.

Agemund holds Shotesdene of the King, and he held it allodially of Queen Eddid. It was then as now assessed at one hide. Here is one ploughland, one half in demesne, the other held by a villein. Its value was fifteen shillings and now is ten shillings.

The names of the manors let us a little into their history.

If we compare the local names in England with those on the Continent we shall find that for more than a thousand years England has been distinctly and pre-eminently the land of inclosures. The suffixes which occur most frequently in Anglo-Saxon names denote an enclosure of some kind—something hedged, walled in, or protected. An examination of these names shows us that the love of privacy and the seclusiveness of character which is often laid to the charge of Englishmen prevailed in full force among the races which imposed names on our English villages. The prevalence of these suffixes in English names proves also how intensely the nation was imbued with the sacred nature of property, and how eager every man was to possess some spot which he could call his own and guard from the intrusion of every other man.

The suffix "*ton*" constitutes a sort of test word by which we are enabled to discriminate the Anglo-Saxon settlements. It is the most common termination of English local names; and, although it is a true Teutonic word, yet there is scarcely a single instance of it in Germany.

The primary meaning of the suffix "*ton*" is to be sought in the Gothic "*tains*," the old Norse "*teinn*," and the Frisian "*tene*," all of which mean a twig, a radical signification which survives in the phrase "the *tine* of a fork." Hence a *tun* or *ton* was a place surrounded by a hedge, or rudely fortified by a palisade. Originally it meant only a single croft, homestead or farm, and the word kept this meaning in the time of Wicliffe. He translates St. Matthew xxii. 5—"But thei dispiseden, and wenten forth oon to his toun, another to his marchandise."

But in most cases the isolated *ton* became the nucleus of a village; the village grew into a *town*; and, last stage of all, the word town has come to denote not the one small croft inclosed from the forest by the Saxon settler, but the dwelling place of a vast population twice as great as that which the whole of Saxon England could boast.

These extracts, which I have preferred to make in his own language, from Canon Isaac Taylor's "Words and Places" (pp. 124, 125, 127), account for the significance of the names of other parishes in our valley, as Penton, Thruxton and Monxton, and another passage from the same book (p. 387) will help us still further to realise the growth of the *parish* of Kimpton :—

We meet with indication of the existence of extensive estates on which stood large houses, occasionally of stone, but more frequently of wood, for the residences of the proprietor surrounded by the *tun*, or inclosure for cattle, and the *bartun*, or inclosure for the gathered crops. Round the homestead were enclosed fields with barns, mills and weirs. There were detached outlying sheep folds and sheep cotes, with residences for the serfs, and special pasturages were allotted to swine and goats. The estates were separated from one another by a *mark* or broad boundary of woodland. There were open forest pastures fed by swine. In these woodlands the prevalent vegetation consisted of the thorn, hazel, oak, ash, lime, elm and fern. The maple, beech, birch, aspen and willow grew less abundantly.

We shall probably be justified in concluding that as the woods in this case are said to be "unproductive" there was but a small proportion of beech and oak to furnish "pannage" for the hogs.

The suffix "den" indicates a wooded valley where the swine pastured, which was presumably the origin of the name of the manor of Shottesdene.

A special interest has always attached to Shottesdene, which comes out as early as the Doomsday Survey. Like

Penton Grafton it was held by the lovely and saintly Queen Edith, wife of Edward the Confessor, daughter of Earl Godwin and sister of Harold. There are few more attractive characters in history than this gentle and beautiful though badly treated queen. Her beauty and sweetness of character were proverbial, as were her skill in needlework and learning generally.

I have quoted in "The Story of Wherwell Abbey," where she sojourned for a time, the verse Ingulph of Croyland gives about her :—

> As comes the rose from the thorn
> Came Edith from Godwin;
> Thus out of it was made a courteous verse,
> Of which Clerks knew well the French
> That is: *Sicut spina rosam*
> *Genuit Godwinus Editham.*

It is hardly probable that we shall ever trace out any particulars of Queen Edith's connection with the manor of Shoddesden. She held it allodially, or in other words it was her freehold; but there is no trace of her being at Kimpton.

Hugh de Port, who held Kimpton and Littleton, was a large landowner, and had many manors besides these; amongst them part of the Anna Country, which from him gets the name of Amport." Mudie, in his translation of the Doomsday Book of Hampshire, remarks on Amport being one of the very few manors of which its present proprietor can say that it was held by his ancestor in the reign of William the Conqueror, the Marquis of Winchester being a lineal descendant of Hugh de Port.

We get some indication of the population of Kimpton in the time of the Conqueror by comparing the particulars given.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Thus in | Littleton ... | ... | there were 5 | villeins. |
| ,, | Chemonstone | ... | ,, 2 | ,, |
| ,, | Shotesdene | ... | ,, 1 | ,, |
| | | | 8 | ,, |

These villani with their families were in servitude to the lord of the soil like the rest of the cattle and stock on it, and held the folk land by which they supported themselves and their families, and from which they would be removed at their lord's will, but not their own. The villein performed

practically the same services in his day for kind as the agricultural labourer now-a-days performs on a farm for a weekly wage.

Of borderers and cottagers there were 6 in Littleton, and 8 in Chemonstone, but none in Shotesdene.

There does not appear to have been more than one of the class of Servi or Esne, the least free of the dependents on a manor, and this was in Chemonstune.

So that we get a total of about 16 families within the area now forming the parish of Kimpton.

In after times, when the Hundred Courts were more fully developed and the record kept of the view of Frank pledge, the Kimpton manors were in all probability included in the tithing with Fifield, and bore the name of that village, and from that source we may hope to gather further information as to its people.

Before we lay the map aside there is an historical incident of much interest, which ought to be noticed, and which belongs to Kimpton from its proximity to Ludgershall. Along the road, which, as we have already noticed, crosses the top of the parish, there rushed one September Sunday in the year 1140, a panic stricken host with at any rate one terrified woman in their midst, sparing neither spur nor threats nor blows to urge horses and men to reach the shelter of the Wiltshire fortress as quickly as might be. The hot haste of that ride has been drawn for us by the pen of an eye witness, and it is the most exciting story in the annals of this quiet Hampshire valley. Once again, indeed, during the great rebellion, we have a chase of retreating men by the fierce soldiers who had surprised them, and the entries in the register of burials at Andover preserve the memory of that sharp encounter. Otherwise the records of our valley are records of peaceful rural life. If I am right in believing that the Battle of Sceorstan was contested with such indomitable courage and such terrible carnage on both sides on the plain country below Weyhill, we may reckon one of the earliest battle-fields noted in the History of England as among the interesting features of our parts. But I do not think that there are more than these three occasions in which war has come within the hill framed picture of peace presented by the basin of the Anna. May that peace ever be continued to us, and in God's good time plenteousness once more be granted.

The witness from whose pen we have the description of the scene I have alluded to is the nameless, but contemporaneous writer of the "*Gesta Stephani.*" It will be necessary to supplement it by quotations from *Florence of Worcester* and other chronicles, but as far as I possibly can I shall give the story in the very words of the old writer himself.

We must, however, for the sake of clearness, start with the Empress Matilda's romantic escape from London and arrival at Winchester to negotiate with its Bishop, Henry of Blois, her dealings with whom were a more complete failure than even her dealings with the Londoners.

The Dean of Winchester tells us,

> Soon after this time, as it seems, the Bishop, anxious to secure Winchester for Stephen, invited the chief citizens to a banquet at Wolvesey, and, when he had them safely there, proceeded to persuade them to go over to the King; but the Provost of Winchester, who had his suspicions, had slipped away before the gates were barred, and, hastening up to the castle, secured it for the Empress. Robert of Gloucester quickly brought her thither from Oxford, and Winchester Castle became their headquarters. She summoned Bishop Henry to appear, and he replied by the notable message, "I will prepare myself," which he did by rallying all the men of Stephen's party to Wolvesey. Earl Robert, to secure communications with Oxford and the West, placed garrisons at Andover and Wherwell to hold the passage of the Test.

Take a good look at the map, and if you have coloured the old roads on yours as I have on mine you will have the story before you at a glance.

But spare me a moment to recall the terrible state of things at Winchester. For seven weeks there was nothing but bloodshed and burnings. Bishop Henry of Blois was at Wolvesey; Matilda in the Castle; and the fire balls from Wolvesey soon set the north-eastern parts of the city in a blaze. Colebrook Street and the venerable Nunnamenstre were soon burnt to the ground; and in the terrible destruction Hyde Abbey buildings were destroyed. I ask your recollection of this, because any day in the crypt of the Cathedral you may see some evidences of this conflagration; and those traces may serve to connect our own present with that sad past, for, though not less terrible at Andover than at Winchester, those days of dread have left no marks behind them here.

And now it is but needful to call to mind that while the contending parties were in the positions thus described, Stephen's queen, Matilda of Boulogne, marched upon Winchester.

I think fit (says the writer of the *Gesta Stephani*) to give here a short account of those who, collecting their forces, joined the Countess in this siege, in order that the reader may reflect that it was not by man's strength but by the marvellous power of the Almighty that so vast and so mighty a host was quickly subdued and dispersed, made captive and annihilated, as will be shown in what follows. There was David, king of the Scots, who, as I have before narrated, had been already twice driven from England in shameful discomfiture, and was now a third time to his deep disgrace and with great peril to his followers forced to flee as many others were. There were also Robert, Earl of Gloucester, Reginald, bastard son of King Henry and Earl of Cornwall; Milo of Gloucester, who was now made Earl of Hereford to the satisfaction of all; Ranulf, Earl of Chester; Baldwin, Earl of Exeter; Roger, Earl of Warwick; William de Mohun, who was now made Earl of Dorset; also Botterel, Earl of Brittany. The barons were no wise inferior to the earls in faithfulness and merit, in courage and gallantry. There were Brian, mentioned before; John, surnamed the Marshall; Roger de Oleo, Roger de Nunant, William Fitz Allan, with others, whom it would be tedious to enumerate. All these having mustered their followers in great force vied with each other in joint and indefatigable efforts to reduce the bishop's castle.

Meanwhile the Bishop had summoned the barons of the king's party from every quarter in England, and had also taken into his pay at great expense a number of stipendiary soldiers, and with these he harassed those who lay outside the city by all the means in his power. The Queen also, with a gallant body of men-at-arms and the stout array of the Londoners, a thousand in number, well armed with helmets and breastplates, besieged from without the besiegers of the castle inside the city with great spirit and vigour. The King had also on his side certain great men who were of his privy councils, and admitted to his familiar intimacy, but not being endowed with great domains possessed merely of castles. The most distinguished of these were Roger de Casnet and William, his brother, accustomed to war, and second to none in military skill and every kind of excellence. When the rest of the King's adherents flocked to Winchester to encounter his enemies these brothers, also with a well-equipped troop of cavalry and archers, threatened the city in one quarter with a formidable attack. The siege was therefore of an extraordinary character such as was unheard of in our days. All England was there in arms, with a great conflux of foreigners, and their position against each other was such that the forces engaged in the siege of the bishop's castle were themselves besieged by the royal army, which closely hemmed them in from without, so that there were perpetually skirmishes attended with great losses on both sides. Not to speak of the soldiers who in these daily conflicts were taken prisoners on the one part or the other, or who perished by various mischances, and in various ways, the position of the troops led to serious losses, for while the Countess's party pressed the siege of the castle by every invention of skill and art, the garrison from within shot lighted brands, with which they reduced to ashes the greatest part of the city and two abbeys.

—that is, as explained above, Hyde Abbey and the Nunnery of St. Mary.

On the other hand the royal army, cantoned without the city, carefully watched all approaches by the cross roads to prevent supplies of provisions being thrown into the town, and thus severe famine was inflicted on the great numbers now shut up within the walls. It was therefore decided in council, by common consent, to be desirable that a fort should be constructed at Wherwell, which is distant vi. miles from the city, as a station for 300 soldiers, from whence they might straiten the king's troops and facilitate the entrance of supplies into the city. But the royalists, alive to the danger they incurred by this manœuvre, made a sudden and unexpected attack on Wherwell in great force, and, assaulting the post on all sides, many of its defenders were taken or slain, and the rest were compelled to evacuate it and seek for shelter in the church. There, using the church as a fortress, they defended themselves until brands were thrown upon it and it was set on fire, and they were compelled, half burnt, to come forth and surrender at discretion. It was a horrible and lamentable spectacle. Mailed soldiers trampled recklessly on the floor of the church, the seat of religion, the house of prayer. In one quarter there was butchery; in another the prisoners were dragged along bound with thongs. Here the flames burst forth in the church and consumed the roof of the monastery; there the consecrated virgins, reluctantly compelled by the fire to issue from their inclosure, filled the air with shrieks and lamentations.

We must supplement this account by an extract from William of Malmesbury, who says :—

To comprise therefore a long series of events within narrow limits, the roads on every side of Winchester were watched by the Queen and the Earls who came with her lest supplies should be brought in to those who had sworn fidelity to the Empress. The town of Andover also was burned. The abbey of nuns at Warewell was also burned by one William de Ipres, an abandoned character who feared neither God nor man, because some of the partizans of the Empress had secured themselves within it.

It is a matter for regret to us that we have no fuller account of the burning of Andover. This very simple record, "Andover also was burned," is all we know directly of the event so immensely important in the history of the town. Possibly, though we have no more particulars of the catastrophe, we may be able to deduce some conclusions from the date, which is thus made certain.

When the new line from Hurstbourne to Fullerton was being constructed in 1883 eight human skeletons were found very close together. Mr. W. Money, F.S.A., who mentions the discovery in his *History of Newbury*, suggests with great probability that they may have been the remains of some who fell in this encounter.

But we may now continue the account given in the *Gesta Stephani* of the route and retreat to Ludgershall :—

When Robert, Earl of Gloucester, and the rest of his party learnt the disastrous termination of this affair they entirely despaired of success in prosecuting the siege, and consulted how best they might secure their own safety by retreat, for it seemed unwise and inexpedient to hold out any longer after the serious loss they had sustained, when the bishop's troops had burnt the town, the citizens were wasting with famine and want, and they themselves were threatened with the same calamity unless they made a speedy retreat. Collecting therefore their light baggage they threw open the gates and marched out in a body, the troops being skilfully formed by divisions in close order, the whole army commenced the retreat.

Now we must let Florence of Worcester take up the tale :—

The Empress had already mounted her horse, accompanied and guided by her brother Reginald, having more than two hundred cavalry under the command of the Earl of Bristol (Gloucester) as a rear guard, when the Bishop suddenly ordered his troops to fly to arms, and making a desperate attack on the enemy to take as many prisoners as they could. Many were thus captured, and very many scattered and slain, among whom was a knight named William de Curcell, with six troopers, and he was buried at St. Grimbalds. The lady (Matilda) learning this was in great terror and dismay, and reached the castle of Ludgershall, for which she was making, sad and sorrowful, but she found it no safe resting place for fear of the Bishop. In consequence of which she once more mounted her horse, male fashion, and was conducted to Devizes.

We take the account of the rout from the *Gesta* :—

They were met by the King's troops, who poured in upon them with so much impetuosity that they were routed and dispersed, and the Earl of Gloucester, who commanded the rear guard, was cut off from the rest and taken prisoner, with all his followers. The royal army spread itself all over the neighbouring country in pursuit of the vulgar crowd of fugitives, and not only captured the soldiers whenever they could be met with, but obtained an immense booty in valuables, which had been cast away and lay scattered about. Coursers, of high metal, which had thrown their riders, were to be seen galloping about ; others, exhausted with fatigue, were drawing their last breath. Shields and coats of mail, with all sorts of weapons and armour, strewed the ground: rich robes, precious vessels, and valuable ornaments lying in heaps were everywhere ready to the hand of the first comer. Need I speak of the knights, and even the greatest barons, who, throwing off all the distinguishing marks of their rank, fled on foot, disguising even their names in shame and fear. Some fell into the hands of the country people, and underwent the severest torments. Others concealing themselves in loathsome caves, half starved and full of alarm, either lay there until an opportunity of escape presented itself, or being discovered by the enemy they were dragged out without shame or decency. Need I speak of the King of the Scots, who a third time captive as they say, but always ransomed, was set at liberty, and returned to his own

country sorrowful and worn with fatigue, with a few only of his followers. What shall I say of the Archbishop of Canterbury, with other bishops and eminent men from all England, who, separated from their attendants, their horses and clothes carried off, or barbarously torn from them, were scarce able to creep to some safe hiding place after the fearful rout.

Such was the history of that hurried flight, which must have made at any rate the last part of its rushing course through Kimpton. It is a very curious fact, and entirely in accordance with the chronicler's narrative, that a silver seal was found at or near Ludgershall representing a knight in armour, with lance and shield, riding on a horse, the inscription on which, "Sigillvm Milonis de Glocestria," proves it to have been the property of one who we know was in that rout —Milo of Gloucester, Earl of Hereford, "ex-constable," as he is so often called.

This seal was engraved in Vol. xiv. of the *Archæologia*, and a woodcut of it is given in Knight's *Old England*, Vol. i.

Everywhere throughout the land it is the old parish church which is the great connecting link that unites the past and the present in one continuous history. Although in so many cases the registers and other records are imperfect or defective, yet round the church there always gathers the testimony of the ages, and ever since there has been written history at all neither the story of a parish nor its people can be told without reference to its church, as the storehouse of witness to historical facts as well as sacred truths.

Kimpton is no exception to this rule; on the contrary, it is an admirable example of the manner in which family history is preserved by sepulchral monuments. And I am glad of the opportunity thus afforded of entering my protest against the destruction of memorials to the dead, which has been such a characteristic of modern church restoration. Whether such memorials are in accordance with views of good taste, or whether they seem to us so marked by architectural inconsistency as to suggest their being "matter out of place," their wanton destruction is a wrong to the whole community, and the removal of them from the church to which they belong must be denounced as a public injury. At the same time it must be admitted that in bye-gone days the positions selected for them were often ingeniously inappropriate; so much so that the most conservative restorer has no choice but to relegate those that interfere with important architectural features to more convenient places.

There is no mention of a church at Kimpton in Domesday Book; but that is no proof whatever that there was not one at the time the survey was made, there being no instructions issued to the inquisitors who collected the information respecting the church or churchmen. They did not enumerate them unless it was necessary, as for example, when either held taxable property as a portion of the maintenance of the church, or as a private possession, it became needful to enter this in the return, and it was invariably done; but it was unquestionably done for the sole purpose of taxation, and without any intention to enumerate either churches or priests.

There does not appear to be any work in Kimpton Church of earlier date than the thirteenth century. The church of Saxon times was very likely of wood, and at any rate the architect of the "Early English" period left no remains of the building which occupied the site when he began the structure, which after six hundred years calls forth our admiration by the true art displayed in the beautiful proportion of the whole building, and especially of the windows of the chancel.

From time to time alterations have been made, the effect of which is disastrous. The filling up of the exquisite lancet windows is a great misfortune, and I cannot suppress the hope that a true "restoration" may be undertaken when opportunity presents itself. No one would carry out such a work in a truer spirit of reverence for the past than the present Rector. To an antiquary the so-called "restoration" of a church is too often a word of fear. When, therefore, an ancient building of such exceptional interest is in the loving care of one who knows thoroughly how to appreciate it, we must be pardoned for expressing a fervent hope that so very desirable, and indeed essential, an undertaking should be carried out under his own direction. As it is few would think, from a casual view of the outside, that there is so much that is of interest in the interior; but there is little room for doubt that a judicious restoration, such as I have hopefully indicated, would increase the interest a hundredfold.

The dedication of the Church is SS. Peter and Paul, the festival of which is June 29. Its plan is a nave of four bays with south aisle and porch, north and south transepts and chancel, and a modern brick tower at the west end.

The churchyard has become very much raised on the south side, which makes it difficult to speak with certainty as to the character of two most curious and remarkably interesting windows, which deserve careful attention. It is confidently expected that investigation will determine several questions when it is possible to examine them.

There is no chancel arch: probably there never was one. A fictitious arrangement of comparatively modern erection has been put up to give the appearance of an arch; but originally the rood screen, with perhaps a loft on it, made the division between nave and chancel: most likely the lower part was panelled. Access to the rood loft was from the north transept, where part of the structure of the gallery leading to it may be seen.

There are four very fine lancet windows in the chancel, two on either side; only, unfortunately, they are all blocked up. One on the north is an example of those architectural puzzles, a "low side window." The tracery of the east window and the two-light window on the south side of the chancel were introduced by Dr. Baynes when officiating here in 1870; he also opened the chancel door, which had been blocked up.

The altar is a very fine example of the first half of the seventeenth century. The carving on the legs is strikingly beautiful.

There is also a good chair dating from about the time of Charles the Second.

There are two architectural features in the chancel which call for special notice.

On the north side is a shallow recess within an arch with seven cusps. The hand of the mason has been heavy on it and overloaded it with details, which we may venture to say differ considerably from the original. This is usually called the Easter sepulchre, and it may have been turned to account in that way.

It will be seen by reference to the Andover Churchwardens' Accounts of 1471, which have been already published, that a great deal of the sepulchre furniture used at Paschaltide was movable. The image representing the "Lord's body" being placed in a box during the time it was watched. I am very much inclined to think that this arch at Kimpton is part of a tomb, although very likely the slab of the monument placed under the arch may have been utilized for the Easter sepulchre ceremonies.

On the opposite side is the Thornborough tomb, which I think is by no means in its original form. As it is, it consists of a low altar tomb of Purbeck marble, held to the wall by ancient iron clamps, above which is a slab of Purbeck, with a cresting of Tudor flowers and the brasses of Robert Thornburgh and family 1522.

This brass is very interesting. It represents Robert Thornburgh in the armour of the period, with head uncovered, showing the long hair as then usually worn, kneeling on a tasseled cushion at a desk, over which is a cross marked with the four bleeding wounds. From his lips issues a scroll, with the words "Crux xpi libera me."

Immediately behind him is his first wife, Alys, in the usual costume of that date, kneeling at a desk, and with a scroll bearing the inscription "Crux xpi salva me." Behind her the small figures of her son and unmarried daughter stand with their hands joined in prayer.

Behind these is Anne, the second wife, also kneeling at a desk, and with a scroll inscribed "Crux xpi defende me." Her son and six daughters, four of whom were unmarried when the monument was erected, occupy positions behind her.

The inscription beneath is—"Of yor charite pray for the soule of Robert Thornburgh, esquyer, whos body here restyth, and dyed the xij day of May in the yere of or Lord God M.V.C. xxii, & for ye souls of Alys & Anne, his wyves, & all there children, on whos souls Jhū have mercy."

The Thornboroughs lived at Shoddesden Manor, which, as we have already seen, was at the time of the Domesday Survey in the tenure of Agemund, who held it allodially of the beautiful Edith, Queen of Edward the Confessor. It passed into the Thornborough family, and is now, together with the Manor of Littleton, the property of Sir R. H. Pollen, Bart., of Reddenham. When we are talking about the Kimpton families we shall have more to say about the Thornboroughs.

On the south wall of the chancel is a piscina or drain for rinsing the sacred vessels after Holy Communion. It has a trefoil head and projecting basin, but has been so much renovated that it is not easy to speak with certainty of its date.

The tie beam of the roof has a good boss carved with oak leaves, and the king post is well moulded.

In the fourteenth century, probably after 1350, the work of church alteration went on with great vigour, but extended over some years. During that period the nave and chancel were re-roofed, and the arcade of four bays, with the aisle, erected, and probably the transepts, one before the other.

The window on the south side of Penton Mewsey Church, and those in the sides of the chancel there, may be regarded as perfect models of the style of this date. If the windows at Kimpton be compared with them the same general principles of design will be observed, but with a roughness of outline and workmanship which indicates a provincial architect and mason.

The transepts are especially interesting. The south, in which the organ is placed, has a good window, with moulded jambs and mullion, part of the oak cornice shows on the east wall. There is a most curious piscina with ogee head and bold stop-chamfer, which has a credence shelf (like the Penton one) apparently renewed at some time.

There were, of course, altars in each of the transepts, and the curious corbels on the east walls may have been to support the baldichino over them. I incline however to the opinion that they were used as brackets for images, a feature by no means uncommon in Hampshire churches. The corbels or brackets in the north transept are dissimilar in design. The north window of two lights with moulded jambs and hood mould is very fine. There is the indication of an arch in the north-west angle of this transept.

It will be noticed that the arches dividing the nave and aisle spring at once from the octangular piers without any intervening capital. The font is modern, the panelling of cast iron, which marks off a kind of baptistery, was once in Thruxton Church.

The window over this, with a roughly worked ogee head, has a remarkably deep splay.

The wooden dormer window, of conspicuous ugliness, may possibly have been inserted over the aisle in 1702. The windows on the north side of the nave are of late 15th or early 16th century work, having three lights each and a flat head. The glass with which they are glazed though plain is old. The jambs of these windows are moulded; but the western one has been very much injured. The oak panelling remains on the south side of the nave and in the south transept.

The tower was re-built in brick, to correspond with Kimpton Lodge, by G. S. Foyle, Esq., in 1887. There are three bells. In the interior of the tower is the Hatchment for King George III., 1812.

A stone on the outside near the porch probably gives the date of one of the occasions on which the Church was "repaired and beautified."

George Fleet
Wood, John
Batt, Chvr
chwardens
1702

The question suggests itself involuntarily as to whether Bill Stumps may not have been the sculptor.

Taking a final glance at the whole church* before proceeding to record the monumental inscriptions, it is im-

* Since the above account of the Church was written, various works of repair have been carried out.

In the interior, the lancet windows of the chancel which were blocked up have been opened out and glazed, two squints one on either side of the entrance to the chancel have been brought to light ; these squints enabled the congregation in the transepts to see the priest at the high altar.

The miserable deal roofs, lath and plastered beneath the collar, of about the same date as the tower, of nave, aisle, and south transept have given place, in the transept to an oak panelled roof, and in the nave and aisle to a similar roof without the panelling. In the thickness of the south wall of the south transept between the bottom of the sill of the fine two-light window and the ground a cusped arch much mutilated was discovered; in the centre of the wall of the recess at the back of the arch is a one-light window measuring in the clear two feet six inches in height by eleven inches in width; the sill of this window is but a few inches above the floor level of the transept, level with the sill of the window and immediately under the arch is a shallow trench, once doubtless covered over with a stone slab, which contained a stone cist measuring externally 4 feet in length by 15 inches in width ; this cist, which was broken in half, probably once contained the relics of some saint or martyr in whose honour, no doubt, the altar which stood in the transept was dedicated. Externally the brick buttresses built against the east wall of the chancel and the south wall of the transept have been removed and the gables of both chancel and transept, which had fallen down, have been rebuilt. The north and south walls of the nave, the walls of the south transept and the east wall of chancel have been cleansed of the plaster which disfigured them, the dormer window of the aisle has been removed, and a dry area formed, with a drain to take off the rain water, on the south side of the church and also on the north side of the nave.

E. D. W.

possible to avoid being struck with the admirable proportions of the building, which give it a peculiar dignity. The little aisle is but 5ft. 9in. wide; but it has an admirable effect. The chancel measures 25ft. 8in. by 14ft. 6in. From the north wall of the north transept to the south wall of the south transept measures 43ft. 9in., the transepts are each 13ft. wide. The length of the nave is 47ft., and its width 14ft. 6in.

The monuments in the church are numerous. The inscriptions are given in full, with numerals for facility of reference.

I.

*On the East Wall.*

On a watered stone.

D. Positum
Mariæ Norborni uxoris Gulielmi Norborni Armig simul
et filiæ Joannis Foyle Armig et Millecent uxoris ejus
Quæ Stemnatis claritatem vita ornavit clariore
Syncere erga Deum religiosa vixit evangelium quod
professa est uxor casta mater prudens
pariter et pia nemini iniuria, benefaciendo
pluribus nota nihil illius severitate
jucundus jucunditate severius fuit
Displicuit ei ornamentorum vanitas cui semper
cordi fuit, non corpus auro atque gemmis ditare
sed animan exornare virtutibus
In liberis suis Humfredo, Gulielmo, Millecent, Rachel,
Maria sibi ipsi quasi superstes abiit potius
quam obiit
Anno { Domini 1658
Ætatis Suae 37

*Hour glass* *Skull and cross-bones* *Mattock & shovel*

II.

*On the East Wall.*

A marble monument with cherubim.

At the base a coat. *Argent*, a bend *sable*, on which are 3 arrows *gules*.

M. S.

Reverendi Thomæ Cholwell
in Artibus Magistri

et hujus Ecclesiæ nuper Rectoris
Qui Pietate in Deum Reverencia in Ecclesiam,
Amore in Patriam, Fide in amicos,
Et Humanitate Erga omnes fuit Spectatissimus
obiit xx die Sept Anno Ætatis suæ lvii
Anno Salutis M.D.CXCIII
Seculi Pertæsus
Ric$^{dus}$: Kent gen et Honoratissima Elizabetha
Miller, Amicitiæ, et Gratitudini,
nunquam morturæ
Dicārunt

III.

*On the South Wall of the Chancel.*

On a marble urn.

Sacred
To the Revd Edwd Foyle M.A.
Rector of this parish
He died 20th July 1832
aged 74 years.

IV.

*On the Floor of the Chancel.*

1668

Here lyeth
The body of
Millecent Nor
borne the daughter
of William Nor
borne Esquire She
departed this life
the tenth day
of February
aged 18

V.

*On the Floor of the Chancel.*

E. F.
1832

VI.

*On the Floor of the Chancel.*

The Revd John Goddard A.M.
Rector of this parish
and of South Tidworth
born 13 Jan 1708
Died 21st March 1785.

VII.

*On the Floor of the Chancel.*

In Memory
of Elizabeth second wife of
the Reverend Edward Foyle
late Rector of this parish
who departed this life
December 12 1793
aged 61.

VIII.

*On the Floor of the Chancel.*

Depositum Doiæ
Millicent Foyle
Relict Johanis Fo
yle de Kympton in
Comitat Southton
Armiger que obiit
Primo die Martii
Anno Domini 1661
ætatis suæ 68.

IX.

*On the Floor of the Chancel.*

Hic jacet Johannes Foyle de
Chute in Comitatu Wilts Armiger
qui obiit tertio die Junii Ano Dom
1671 ætatis suæ 54
Serius aut citius sedam properamus
ad unam.

X.

*On the Floor of the Church.*

Sacred
to the memory of
George Soley Foyle Esq
who departed this life
on the 14th day of October
1839
In the 71st year of his age
also of Anne his wife
who died September 18th 1841
in the 68 year of her age.

XI.

*On the Floor of the Nave.*

Hic jacet Johannes Foyle Generosus
filies nat marjmus Joannis Foyle
de Chute in Comitatu Wills Armiger,
qui obiit octavo djr Martii anno
domini 1670 ætatis sul
25 Tendimus Hue omnes.

XII.

*On the North Wall of the Chancel.*

A marble monument having a coat of arms at the top.

*Gules* a saltier, compony counter-compony, *or* and *azure* between four crosses crosslet fitchée *argent*, on an escutcheon of pretence *argent* three lozenges *gules* each charged with an eagle displayed *of the field.*

Near this place are interred
The remains of
John Foyle Esq
Of Chute in the County of Wilts
eldest son of Edward Foyle Esq
of Somerford Keynes
in the said County
who died April 21 1715 aged 33
also of
Frances his wife
the daughter of John Bishop Esq
of Chilcomb in the County of Dorset

and afterwards married to Wm Harris Esq
who died Nov 10 1753 aged 77
also of
Constance Foyle
daughter of Edward Foyle Esq
by Constance his wife
who died Nov 3 1746
aged 14.

XIII.

*On the North Wall of the Chancel.*

A marble monument.

Sacred to the Memory of
George Soley Foyle Esq
of this place
who departed this life Oct. 14th
1839 aged 70 years
He was the only son of
George Foyle Esq
of Somerford Keynes, Wilts.
Also in Memory of
Ann relict of the above
George Soley Foyle
who departed this life Sep. 13th
1841 aged 67 years
This tablet is erected
as a tribute of affection by
their only children
Mary Ann Randolph and Sarah Frances Fawcett

XIV.

*On the North Wall of the Chancel.*

A marble monument with coat of arms.

Quarterly. 1st *Gules*, a saltier, compony counter-compony *or* and *azure*, between four crosses crosslet fitchée *argent*. 2nd *Gules*, a bend *ermine*; 3 Barry of six, *sable* and *argent*, in chief three plates; 4 *azure*, a chevron between three cocks *argent*.

Near this Place
lie the Remains of
The Rev Edward Foyle
of West Cholderton

Prebendary of Sarum
and thirty four years
Rector of this Parish
He was Second Son of Edward Foyle Esq^r^
of Somerford Keynes, Com. Wilts
and died May 7th 1784 aged 57 years
leaving by Anne, his first Wife
Daughter of Thomas Hayter Esq
of the Close Salisbury
one son Edward and
one daughter Frances
Who
In memory of a deserving Man
and a most affectionate Father
erected this monument.

xv.

*On the North Wall of the Chancel.*

Coat of arms at the top.

Argent, a saltier counter-compony *sable* and *or*, between four trefoils slipped of the *second*.

D.S. & M.

*Johannis Foyle* Armigeri, nec non
*Johnnis* Filii ejus natu maximi
Quorum corpora hic propter iacent
Ille *Pater* Honesta stirpe oriundus, Virtute sua
Familiæ suæ Dignitatem adauxit in posterum
Educatus Libere, moribus probus, spectatus fide,
Indole insuper et Ingenio
Ad Pietatem Prudentiam Patientiam Pacem temperātiam
Factus Totus
Nobilibus et Primoribus viris Gratus
venerabilis vulgo charus omnibus
Quia omnibus profuit opibus Consilio Exemplo
Vir pius, prudens, providus, Dives nec tamen Avarus
Qui rem suam satis ampliam
Industria propria (bono cum deo) partam
(ut vivus benigne usus) ita moriens
Suis Pauperibus liberis nepotibus
Largissime effudit
Sic demum vita laudibiliter Acta

Quartoque et octuagessimo ætat suæ Anno exacto
Bona Canitie, et senio satur
Fato cessit xix die mensis Septemb
Annoque Domi MDCIIL.

---

Hic *filius* dum vixit, tali vixit non indig : Patri
In omnibus parentis gressus insequtus
nisi quod eius ætatem non sit assequtus
obiit enim Anno { ætat suæ lvi / Domini MDCXXXXIV.

Outside the Church at the north-east, are the folowing :—

*On a marble cross, East side.*

Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Charles Randolph of Kimpton Lodge and Rector of this Parish who died July 29th 1871 aged 76 years.

Also of Mary Ann relict of the above and daughter of the late G. S. Foyle, Esqre, who died May 20th 1882 aged 76 years.

*On the North side of the Cross.*

Sacred to the memory of Myra Elizabeth Mary the beloved wife of C. Foyle Randolph Esqre, eldest son of Charles Randolph who died May 23rd 1872 aged 40 years.

*On a coped stone.*

Constance Foyle Randolph, born Dec. 13, 1834, died Feb. 19, 1873.

*On a Calvary.*

In fond memory of Eddie (Edward Foyle) the dearly loved and only son of the Rev. Edward Foyle and Louisa Ann Randolph, born May 9, 1868, died Sept. 3, 1877.
Of such is the kingdom of heaven.

Also of George Foyle the beloved infant and only surviving son of the Rev. E. F. and L. A. Randolph. Born June 25, 1878, died Sept. 28, 1878.
He will gather the lambs with his arms and
carry them in his bosom.

---

It often causes me much surprise that the good folks who live in the Anna Valley, as their fathers and grandfathers have done before them, do not show a keener interest in their family history; for although we have not many of the large land-holding families of the middle ages represented amongst us, yet the fact that the ancestors of large numbers of our neighbours have been hereabouts, and left their traces through centuries, is most remarkable. If it were only that we can point to the lands held by Hugh de Port before the Norman Conquest being still in the possession of his descendants, it would be much to feel a pride in; but it is true throughout our population. Among the children in the Penton School are some having the same name (christian as well as surname in one instance) as the Bayliff of Andover exactly three centuries back, and a good friend of mine who kept my garden for me at Enham was a namesake of one figuring constantly in the Town Records more than another century before that.

The Parish Registers of this valley ought to have a peculiar value, because it is through them that family histories can alone be traced. The fortunate circumstance, that we have been able to make the old lists handed in by the tithing men available for research, enhances greatly the value of all the other records; because, taking all together, it enables us to gather a much more complete view of the past than is generally obtainable.

The registers of Kimpton have been kept, at any rate since the beginning of this century, with the most scrupulous care, and may be cited as exemplary for preservation. An entry in the book lettered C., No. 3, contains a copy of

"A List of all Extant Register Books in the Parish of Kimpton in the county of Southampton transmitted to the Registrar of the Diocese of Winchester according to the Act of Parliament passed in the fifty second year of George the Third King, and are deposited in the Parish Chest at Kimpton."

A. No. 1. A Register Book of Baptisms Marriages and Burials from the year 1593 to 1662, on Parchment.

B. No. 2. A Register ditto from 1662 of Baptisms Marriages and Burials to 1732, on Parchment.

C. No. 3. A Register ditto of Baptisms to January 1st 1782, on Parchment, when a new Register with Printed Forms began. Marriages in the same Register (C. No. 3) on Parchment to 1754, when they were entered in the New Register, according to the Act of Parliament, with Printed Forms.

Burials in the same Register (C. No. 3) on Parchment to January 1813.

D. No. 4. A Register of Marriages with Printed Forms from 1754 to January 1st 1800.

E. No. 5. A Register of Baptisms from January 1st, 1782, to January 1, 1813, with printed forms.

F. No. 6. A Register of Marriages from January 1st 1809 to January 1, 1813, with printed forms.

Edward Foyle A.M.
Rector of Kimpton
May 20, 1813.

To John Ridding, Esqre.
Registrar of the Diocese of Winchester.

The 19th Section of the Act of Parliament passed in 1812 directed lists of all registers then in every parish, together with the periods at which they respectively commenced and terminated, to be transmitted to the registrar of the respective dioceses; but very few of the clergy were so careful and conscientious in carrying out this requirement as Mr. Foyle. In the diocese of London only four or five of these lists were transmitted.

There are in the country 812 known examples of registers beginning as early as 1538; but the general starting point was the injunction of Queen Elizabeth, 1559, though it was not till 1599 that every parish was ordered to provide a parchment book in which the entries were to be fairly and legibly transcribed from the earlier paper book or the temporary paper memoranda, and each page authenticated by the signature of the minister and churchwardens. This parchment book was to be kept "in a sure coffer with three locks and keys." The Kimpton register therefore begins six years earlier than the average. In 1813 the present form of registers for baptisms and burials was ordered by Act of Parliament, so that in most villages the volume then commenced is the one in present use. The present form of the register of marriage was introduced in 1836.

The earliest of the Kimpton registers, A No. 1, is a book of parchment fastened at the narrow end of the leaves. It is not bound, as is frequently the case with the oldest registers; possibly careful binding might be better for the preservation of these books, but it requires consideration in each separate instance.

An entry under January 18, 1727, gives some particulars about the then present condition of the church.

Att a vestry duly called and held this day it is unanimously agreed by all present viz Chr. Fleetwood, Mr. Woodward, Giles Vincent, Robt Munday, John Gale, John Munday, John Gale, Robert Gyat, and Wm. Mayn, yt ye broken bell should be new cast and ye church ceiled. G. Greenway Rector.

The following entry is an interesting one:—

A rate agreed vpon, made by the paryshioners of Kympton for clerk's wages and the keeping of the belles at Easter, 1688.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Impr. | Mr. ffoyle ... ... ... ... | ijs. | viijd. |
| | Crofer Hopkyns ... ... ... | | viijd. |
| | Ralphe Goodall ... ... ... | | xijd. |
| | Edward Gale ... ... ... ... | | xijd. |
| | Crofer Fleetwood ... ... ... | | viijd. |
| | Wm. Hopkyns ... ... ... | | viijd. |
| | John Chalyn ... ... ... ... | | xijd. |
| | John Davies ... ... ... ... | | iiijd. |
| | John Tybull ... ... ... ... | | iiijd. |
| | John Shevier ... ... ... ... | | iiijd. |
| | x for Hedges ... ... ... ... | | iiijd. |
| | x for Kent ... ... ... ... | | iiijd. |
| | Rich Barnes. M. Miller ... ... | | iiijd. |
| | Lytleton ffarme ... ... ... | ijs, | viiid. |
| | Shodesden ffarme ... ... ... | ijs. | viiid. |
| | Brixies hould ... ... ... ... | | xijd. |
| | Ed Blackmans hould ... ... | | viijd. |
| | M. Hunt ... ... ... ... | | iiijd. |
| | Widdow Millett ... ... ... | | viijd. |
| | Widdow Goodall ... ... ... | | xijd. |
| | Widdow Gale ... ... ... ... | | viijd. |
| | Tho Graylie ... ... ... ... | | viijd. |
| | Mich Morrell ... ... ... ... | | viijd. |
| | James Edington ... ... ... | | viijd. |
| | Sm. ... ... ... ... | xxis. | viijd. |

The entries of collections after briefs are not so numerous as at some of the churches, but are worth recording. They appear to belong to the year 1661 only.

Received at Kympton for Elmiter the summe of fower shillings and eight pence in the year 1661.

Julie 1661 Gathered at Kympton, Oxford, foure shillings

Julie 1661 Collected at Kympton for Watchet three shillings and two pence

Julie 1661 Gathered at Kympton for Fakenham in the countie of Norfolke three shillings

Julie 1661 Gathered at Kympton for re-edifying of the church at Pontefracte in the county of Yorke four shillings 1d

August this 18 1661 Received then at Kympton for Watringburie in the county of Kent two shillings nine pence

August 26 1661 Received then at Kympton for Bolingbrooke in Lincolnshire three shillings ten pence

Collected for the ship called The Blessing of Dublin two shillings ten pence

Collected for Drayton in the county of Salop three shillings eight pence

Collected at Kympton for Milten in Norfolk one shilling and nine pence

Briefs were letters patent issued by the Sovereign directing the collection of alms for special objects named in them. It will be remembered that the rubric in The Book of Common Prayer directs that after the Nicene Creed (if occasion be) . . . . . briefs, citations, and excommunications read. An Act of Parliament was passed to regulate these appeals in 1705. And when we consider these sample entries relate to one year only, and the complete absence of local claim or interest in the objects for which these collections were ordered, we are not surprised to find that Act begin—"Whereas many inconveniences do arise and frauds are committed in the common method of collecting charity money upon briefs by letters patent to the great trouble and prejudice of the objects of such charity and the great discouragement of well disposed persons."

The Act provides that the forms should only be printed by the Queen's printers. The number of copies to be expressed on the registered copy filed in the register of the Court of Chancery. These copies were then to be delivered by the "undertaker or undertakers" and produced to the clergy and churchwardens, &c., very special care being taken that "the people called Quakers" should not escape. The registration of the amounts collected was compulsory within two months, and the "undertakers" were to be "allowed for their pains," "and whereas there hath been an evil practice in farming and purchasing for a sum of money the charity money that should or might be collected on such briefs, to the very great hindrance and discouragement of almsgiving on such occasion," the purchase of them was made illegal.

Possibly the brief holders came out extra strong in 1661; but at any rate we find that Mr. Pepys was rather exercised about it, for in his diary he has entered—"1661, June 30 (Lord's Day). To church where we observe the trade of briefs is now come up to so constant a course every Sunday that we resolve to give no more to them." The wonder is the system lasted so long.

The churchwardens' books of a parish are always interesting, but as a rule have not been so well preserved as the registers. There is but one volume remaining at Kimpton from 1763 to 1791, from which I abstract the account for the earliest year, 1763:—

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| April | 7. | Paid the Clarke ... ... ... | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| | 10. | Paid Wm Munday 5 adders ... .. | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| | | Paid Eliz Gale ... ... ... | 0 | 2 | 6 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| April 11. | Paid Tim Tayler 3 adders ... ... | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| 12. | Paid Fillamore 4 hedghogs ... ... | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 13. | Paid for two adders .. ... ... | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 17. | Paid Eliz Gale ... ... ... | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| | Paid Anne Alexander ... ... | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| | Paid Woodlands ... ... ... | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| | Paid Wm. Spratts adder ... ... | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| 24. | Paid Englands Maids adder ... ... | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| | Paid Elemes for 1 hedhog ... ... | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| | Paid Eliz Gale ... ... ... | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 30. | Paid John Phialemore 3 hedhogs ... | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| | | 1 | 10 | 9 |

On the fly leaf of the register book B No. 2 a list of rectors is given, which is singularly complete. We must wait patiently—very patiently—till the Hampshire Record Society brings out the long promised volumes of the Episcopal Registers before we can get the names of the pre-Reformation rectors. It is however much to have so good a list as this, extending over three hundred years.

*Rectors of Kimpton with year of Institution.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Christopher Perrin ... ... | 18 Oct. 1592 |
| Robert Addams D.D. ... ... | 1 Oct. 1613 |
| William Hobbes ... ... ... ... | 1652 |
| Henry Jolly ... ... ... ... | 1671 |
| Thomas Cholwell ... ... ... ... | 1680 |
| Thomas Smith ... ... ... ... | 1694 |
| George Greenway ... ... ... ... | 1719 |
| William Goodenough ... ... ... | 1740 |
| Edward Foyle ... ... ... | 17 Jany. 1750 |
| John Goddard ... ... ... | 2 Aug. 1784 |
| Edward Foyle ... ... ... | 24 June 1785 |
| Charles Randolph ... ... ... ... | 1832 |
| Edward Foyle Randolph ... ... ... | 1871 |
| F. G. Holbrooke ... ... ... ... | 1882 |

The monumental inscriptions of Rev. Thomas Cholwell (II.), Rev. John Goddard (VI.), and Rev. Edward Foyle (III.) have been already recorded.

The Rev. Henry White, rector of Fyfield, brother of the celebrated naturalist, "White of Selborne," whose most interesting diaries for the years 1780 to 1784 are in the possession of the Rev. F. G. Holbrooke, rector of Kimpton, was on intimate terms with the clergymen who held the living

during that time, and makes frequent mention of them. For instance—

1784 April 19. Served Kimpton Church 10th time.
„ April 26. Mr. Foyle returned to Kimpton Church.
„ May 3. Served Kimpton Church again, makes 11th time. Mr. Foyle ill and remains at Bath.
„ May 10. Served Kimpton Church a.m. 12th time. News arrived that Mr. Foyle died at Bath last Friday.
„ May 17. Went to serve Kimpton before 10, but returned not being wanted.
1784 May 22. Rev. Mr. Goddard. S. Tidworth, presented to ye Rectory of Kimpton yesty by Gs. Foyle Esqre.
„ Aug. 2nd. Mr. Goddard inducted to Kimpton, p.m. Went to attend do.

The Rev. John Goddard was Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, he took his B.A. in 1730 and M.A. in 1738.

Thomas Cholwell matriculated at Oxford (Oriel College) as serviter 1 April 1656, took his B.A. 1659, M.A. 1663, was rector of Asley, Hants, 1679, and of Kimpton 1680.

The old rectory house at Kimpton, which stands just off the road to the north east of the church, is a building of unusual interest. More modern additions have concealed the original plan to a great extent. But I have very little hesitation in saying that the old part of the house dates as far back as the fourteenth century. The subjoined description of a typical rectory house of this date from Dr. Cutts' admirable "Scenes and Characters of the Middle Ages," page 256, is exactly what the Kimpton house was before the floors and other additions had been introduced:—

Its principal feature was of course the hall. We know at once what the hall of a timber house of this period of architecture would be. It would be a rather spacious and lofty apartment with an open timber roof. The principal door of the house would open into it. The screens at the lower end of the hall, and the back door of the house would be at the other end of the screens. At the upper end of the hall would be the raised dais, at which the master of the house sat with his family. The fireplace would either be an open hearth in the middle of the hall like that which still exists in the fourteenth century hall at Penshurst Place, Kent, or it would be an open fireplace under a projecting chimney at the further side of the hall.

There was also a chamber and soler at one end of the hall. The soler of a mediæval house was the chief apartment after the hall; it answered to the "great chamber" of the sixteenth century, and to the parlour or drawing room of more modern time. Sometimes there was a chamber under the soler,

reached by a stair from the upper end of the hall. Next there was a buttery and cellar at the other end. In the buttery in those days were kept wine and beer, table linen, cups, pots, &c., and in the cellar the store of eatables, which, it must be remembered, were not bought in weekly from the village shop or the next market town, but were partly the produce of the glebe and tithe, and partly were laid in yearly or half-yearly at some neighbouring fair. The buttery and cellar were always at the lower end of the hall, and opened upon the screens with two whole or half doors side by side.

There was a good mantel of the 17th century in one of the rooms into which this old house had been divided, which has been re-erected at the "Stone House," Madingley Road, Cambridge. A new rectory house was built in 1872.

A store of history almost always lies hidden in the names of the fields of a parish, though often it is difficult to give satisfactory explanations of them. It requires a thorough local knowledge which none but an old resident is likely to possess, and in the case of the parishes it is hoped to deal with in these papers it is not likely we shall exhaust all that should be said. There is however a fear lest derivations should be attempted which are too far fetched, or made up to suit the name as given in spelling perhaps not accurate, or from a pronunciation of a word that may not really be what it sounds like from rustic lips.

But there are certain words which come into field names all over the country about which there is no doubt. And it may be well to begin with the word *Field* itself. This is without doubt Anglo-Saxon, and comes from the same root—says Canon Isaac Taylor in his "Words and Places"—as the Norse *fell*. A fell is a place where the ground is on the fall; a field or feld is where the trees have been felled. In old writers "wood" and "feld" are continually contrasted. Just like the American term "a clearing," the word field bore witness to the great extent of unfelled timber which still remained. With the progress of cultivation the word has lost its primitive force. But bearing its original meaning in mind we shall be able to trace in some of the field names at Kimpton a sort of comparative history of its cultivation, or at any rate to say what parts were left as wood after the surroundings had been cleared by the felling of the timber. The information about the Kimpton fields has been gathered from the tithe map made in 1836, and in speaking of a particular

field the number on that map will be quoted for more ready identification.

The first point which strikes anyone on looking at that map is the great size of many of the fields as compared with other parishes in this part of the country. For instance, "Great Field" (80) contains 118 acres and 26 poles; while "Bushey Hedge Furlong" (219) measures 85¾ acres, and "The Down" (257) extends to 226 acres 31 perches. Some of the fields take their names from their measurement. Thus "Four Acres" (9) is 4a. 0a. 6p. in dimensions; "Six Acres" (10), 5a. 3r. 3p.; "Twelve Acres" (11), 11a. 3r. 14p.; "Lower Six Acres" (27), 5a. 3r. 14p.; "Eleven Acres" (12), 11a. 1r. 17p. Some other fields take their names from their shape, thus for instance "Three Cornered Ground" (41), 3a. 0r. 8p., shows the reason at once for its appellation; "Picked Piece" (133), 19a. 2r. 23p., is clearly so named from its pointed or peaked shape. Picked is good Hampshire for anything that is pointed. "Picked Cowdown" (144) is another instance. Others from their situation, as "South Field" (169). But I do not think "Round Field" (106), 15a. 0r. 35p., can derive its name from its configuration; but I suggest, subject to correction, it may be from either *ryne*, a spring, or *rugan*—rugged. "Holly Bush Piece" (218), "Sycamore Croft" (169), "Walnut Mead" (76), and "Furze Down" (54), suggest naturally that their name clings to them from some distinctive tree or shrubs which were conspicuous at some time or other. "Well Piece" (107), "Lime Kiln and Waste" (57), "Brick Kiln Piece" (63), seem as if, like "Windmill Piece" (214), they ought to call out recollections which would account for their names. But "Hangers Hill" (84) and "Upper Frieths" (58), point to a derivation from times when the clearance of timber was not so complete as it is now. A hanger is a wood on the side of a hill, like the one at Selborne, made famous by Gilbert White. Freeth comes from *ffridd*, a forest or plantation; like *frith*, a woody place. It seems odd that there should be a "Kitchen" (202), and "Little Fryingpan" (20), and "Great Fryingpan" (16). These latter are a puzzle, and as I do not recognise the likeness to that useful article in their shape, I am inclined to think the name is merely arbitrary. But kitchen means a summit, the ridge of a hill. In "Plaister" (235) we may possibly have, I think, the Plaistow, or Play Field, where the "sports and pastimes" of the people were practised before even old Stow arose to chronicle them.

The "Town Meadow" (204) seems to me a very interesting field name. It was so called because it was the meadow of the *ton*, or enclosed place where the lord of the manor (or his representative) lived, as has already been said in an earlier part of this article. The word "Furlong" occurs more than once among the names of the fields; as a measure of length it was equivalent to 40 perches. Its original signification, however, is all that can be applied to it here—*furrow long*, or the length of a furrow, which might, of course, be indefinitely extended. In Kimpton "Perram Furlong" measures 5a. 3r. 28p.; while "Bushy Hedge Furlong" is as much as 85a. 2r. 25p. The "Common Field" (22), we must observe while on the point, measures 50a. 0r. 27p. But the most interesting subject of early cultivation which it introduces will be better discussed under some of the other parishes we hope to describe hereafter.

The manor house at Shoddesden is a very picturesque and interesting building near the road. There have been so many alterations from time to time that it is difficult to trace its original plan, and with the exception of the side towards the highway there is probably nothing to be seen of earlier date than the seventeenth century. But there appear to be some traces of a moat, and viewing it from the higher ground on which Mr. Fowler's dwelling house stands, it is almost impossible to avoid the conclusion that the house, as we see it, represents a structure of earlier date than details warrant our assigning it to. Walls, windows, doors, and chimney stacks have been re-built; but it is probable that the general prospect of the outside is to a great extent as the Thornboroughs saw it. That the spot, and perhaps the general arrangement of the farm clustering round the dwelling, is the same as in the days when the manor belonged to the lovely Queen Edith, may be taken for granted. It would have been gratifying if we could have pointed with certainty to any remains of the time of "Robert Thornburgh, esquyer," whose monument (or the remains of it) stands in the chancel of Kimpton Church, with the date 1522. But it would hardly be safe to say that. That gentleman seems to have been succeeded at Shoddesden by John Thornburgh, probably his grandson, also styled esquire, who was buried at Kimpton 30th December, 1593; after whom we have record of Edward Thornburgh, of Shodsdeane, Esqre., who was buried in the 65th year of his age on the 31st of December, 1627. William Thornborrowe, possibly the son of the last-mentioned, seems

next to have represented the family, and we find the baptisms of his children recorded. Constance 1605, Bridget 1607, Elizabeth 1610, John 1613.

Then in 1628 we find "Edward Goddard, gent., and Mrs. Constance Thornburgh, daughter of William Thornburgh, Esquire, were married the four and twentieth daie of July."

I am afraid at present I have no more about them, but it is very delightful to have the picture in our mind of what must be, so far, the concluding scene of Kimpton in the past with the gallant bridegroom and his fair bride, "Mistress Constance," as the central figures in the most picturesque costume ever worn in England, namely, that of the early years of King Charles the first, with which the portraits by Vandyke make us so familiar. We leave them at a period when life as drawn by Shakespear, with its formal method of address, its courtly phrases, and the charm of polish of manners, had not past away, and while the elevating laws of Chivalry were still remembered.

I most freely and gratefully acknowledge that in the pursuit of enquiries about Kimpton, I proved to myself that the frank, free courtesy, the thorough old fashioned real hospitality, is quite as much in evidence as ever it was, and as ever it will be, so long as Englishmen love their home and their country.

I think it will be better now to leave Kimpton for a time, and try what can be said of its neighbour—Weyhill.

It is not pretended that these remarks are anything more than the roughest sketch, rather meant to show what direction enquiry should take than to be supposed to exhaust the subject. It used to be that a man wrote a history of a County, and gave some account of each parish. There were giants in the earth in those days. But historical science has since then made such strides that no one would even contemplate such a task. If local history is to be written in accordance with our present means of knowledge, it must be parish by parish, or hundred by hundred.

I have hardly so much as alluded to any evidence from Records and MSS. All that remains to be done; but to be done thoroughly it wants the continuous application of years and years, and the help of many hands. There is no spot in England which is more full of historical interest in a quiet way than our own valley, and I earnestly wish that the search for that interest were more common than it has been hitherto.

## CHAPTER III.

## WEYHILL.

The parish of Penton Grafton, or Weyhill as it is commonly called, lies between Appleshaw on the west and Penton Mewsey on the east. Its northern boundary, where it touches the parish of Chute Forest, is the division between the counties of Hampshire and Wiltshire, though on the east it is overhung by a part of the great parish of Andover, round which the county boundary is continued. The parishes of Amport and Monxton join its southern limit. The area is 1885 acres, and it is therefore the sixth in point of size of the parishes in the valley. In 1891 the population was 430.

One main road runs through from north to south, going upwards through part of Chute Forest, and forming for some distance the western boundary of Tangley, striking the old Roman road from Winchester at Hampshire Gate, the border of the county. Southward this main road goes to Winchester, though now with one or two breaks, joining that from Stockbridge just above Weeke. In this direction the parish measures but little short of three miles. Its greatest width from east to west is about a mile and a half. Quite near the southern extremity the main road is crossed by one which runs from Andover to Ludgershall, and this last is even now almost touched by an ancient British trackway, which runs across Penton Mewsey and joins the Roman road known as the Portway at Holdown. This "Drove" road is called the "Harroway." The Portway was the direct communication between Old Sarum and Silchester.

One great difficulty in topographical studies is always that of imagining localities without the roads that are so familiar to us. As very many of the "turnpikes," however, are comparatively quite modern they often give rise to mistaken conjectures. In the case before us the antiquity of the

Roman roads is certain, and there is no room for doubt about the British trackway. But a very slight examination of the map will, I contend, show conclusively that the country immediately to the south of the village of Weyhill, say between that and the village of Monxton, with east and west limits in Sarson and Penton Park, would undoubtedly have ready access to Old Sarum, to Winchester, or the road to London, along ways made during, or previous to the Roman occupation.

Now a word with regard to the levels. The parish is mostly on a spur of the chalk which projects out into the valley. The highest point is at the north, above Duck Street, 353ft. above sea level; eastward of Clanville Lodge the level is 344ft.; Clanville Lodge itself is 300ft.; a point on the road to Nutben 329ft., and the fair ground at the top of the hill is 300ft., precisely the same height as the top of the Harroway hill. The fall is rapid, as we all know from experience, from the fair gronnd, and the lower level is maintained without much variation; within the imaginary limits I have described at about an average of 260ft. From almost any part of that area, where they can be seen at all the two conspicuous points are the top of Harroway hill with its two cottages, and the hill whereon the fair is held. It is very remarkable how plainly these are to be seen from a large tract of country.

These considerations have led me to the conclusion that this neighbourhood must have been the scene of the battle of Sceorstan in A.D. 1016. The story of which battle is this:

During the Lent of A.D. 1014 Æthelred had returned from Normandy and placed the command of his army in the hands of his gallant son, Eadmund, and Eadric Streona Duke of Mercia, his daughter Eaditha's husband. William of Malmesbury (*sub anno* 1015) says:—

A grand council of Danes and English was assembled at Oxford, where the King commanded two of the noblest Danes, Sigeferth and Morcar, accused of treachery to him by the impeachment of the traitor Eadric, to be put to death. He had lured them by his soothing expressions into a chamber, and deprived them, when drunk to excess, of their lives by his attendants, who had been prepared for that purpose. The cause of their murder was said to be his unjustifiable desire for their property. Their dependants, attempting to revenge the death of their lords by arms, were worsted and driven into the tower of St. Frideswide's church at Oxford, where, as they could not be dislodged, they were consumed by fire. However shortly after the foul stain was wiped out by the King's penitence, and the sacred place repaired. I have read the history of this transaction, which is deposited in the archives of that church. The wife of Sigeferth,

a woman remarkable for her rank and beauty, was carried prisoner to Malmesbury, on which account Eadmund, the king's son, dissembling his intention, took a journey into those parts. Seeing her he became enamoured, and becoming enamoured he made her his wife, cautiously keeping their union secret from his father, who was as much an object of contempt to his family as to strangers.

This marriage took place between the feast of the Assumption (Aug. 15) and the Nativity of St. Mary (8th Sept.), 1015. About this time Florence of Worcester tells us (*sub anno* 1015), Cnut, the brave and noble son of Swegen Forkbeard, arrived at Sandwich with a large fleet to claim the crown his father had won. "And shortly afterwards sailing round the coast of Kent entered the mouth of the river Frome, and swept off much booty in Dorsetshire, Somersetshire and Wiltshire. King Æthelred then lying sick at Corsham, his son, Eadmund the Etherling on the one hand, and Eadric Streona the Ealdorman, who was steeped in stratagems and deceits on the other, levied a great army. But when their forces were united the Ealdorman laid all manner of snares for the Etherling and plotted his death, which being found out they presently parted and made way for the enemy."

The men of Wessex, the Saxon Chronicle tells us, submitted to Cnut, "and delivered hostages and horsed the army, and then it was there until mid-winter." That makes clear the position of this county in the party politics of the time.

The next year, 1016, Cnut worked his way plundering and spoiling as he went, "and Eadric the Ealdorman with him, over the Thames at Cricklade, and on to Warwickshire. So his course must have been through the southern part of Warwickshire, traversing Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Huntingdonshire, and so by the north east corner of Northamptonshire, again along the fens to Stamford and thence to York. He returned by another way all to the west, "and then before Easter came all the army to their ships." And after Easter Cnut went with his ships to London. Meanwhile Eadmund the Etherling had ridden through Staffordshire, Shropshire, and Cheshire, "and they plundered on their part and Cnut on his part," is the feeling way the English chronicle puts it. Uhtred, the Earl of Northumbria, though he submitted to Cnut "from need," was ruthlessly killed by the counsel of Eadric the Ealdorman. King Æthelred was throughout this double foray in London,

where Eadmund went to meet him before Easter. And up to this time Cnut and Eadmund seem to have had no encounter.

Æthelred II. died 23 April, 1016. As the Saxon chronicle puts it, "He ended his days on St. George's Mass Day, and he held his kingdom with great toil and under great difficulties the while his life lasted."

The Londoners, it is clear from Higden and other chronicles, declared for Eadmund; while Cnut was as promptly proclaimed at Southampton (*Florence of Worcester, sub anno* 1016) by the bishops, abbots, caldormen, and all who ranked as nobles in England having come to him there. The intrepid Eadmund left London and came into Wessex, where he was well received. I conjecture that he went up the river Stour and probably made Shaftesbury his head-quarters, and employed his time in rallying his friends around him and collecting a large army.

Cnut left Southampton and arrived at Greenwich on Rogation Day, 7 May, "and within a little space they went to London, and they dug a great ditch on the south side, and dragged their ships to the west side of the bridge, and then afterwards they ditched the burgh around so that no one could go either in or out, and they repeatedly fought against the burgh; but the townsmen strenuously withstood them." Therefore raising the siege for the present, and leaving part of the army to guard the ships, they made a forced march into Wessex, and allowed King Eadmund Ironside no time to get together his army. However, with such troops as he was able to muster in so short a space of time he boldly encountered them in Dorsetshire, giving them battle at a place called Pen, near Gillingham, when he defeated and put them to flight.

It is quite clear that this first battle was an attack by Cnut on Eadmund's position, and one in which the Danes got a sharp repulse. The site of this conflict appears to have been pointed out uninterruptedly by local tradition.

In Hampshire Notes and Queries, vol. v., p. 125, *et seq.* I have gone fully into the subject of the authorities who describe this campaign, and also into the different suggestions which have been made as to the scene of the second of the five battles between the claimants for the crown of England, and to that article I must refer those of my readers who wish to go into the matter more fully. I maintain that the

country I have mentioned fulfils every particular by which we can identify that battle field.

I shall now quote from the contemporary translation of Polydore Vergil, an author, of whom Sir Henry Ellis says, "That Polydore Vergil is without mistakes cannot be asserted, but they are very few; his endeavour was to write, as he says, a sincere history."

Such haste made Canutus to cope with Edmundus, whom he understood to be returned to Andover, a towne within xv miles of Sarisberie, whither as soon as hee approached hee planted his tentes on a playne grounde within the sight of his enemies, and brought his soldiers forth in good arraye. Edmundus refused not the profer as soone as hee espied the standerdes of his adversaries to be hoysed. They continued the fight from iij of the clocke until verie night, and neither partie on the better hand; at the length Edricus minding to appal and kill the hearts of the English menn, went up into a certaine watch tower, and then crieing with a high voice that Edmundus was slaine, showed forth a swoorde droppinge full of blodd, whom, while he thus yelled and shouted, the English archers had near hand slayne. This deceytful trayne was a small pleasure to the devisers, for the King now being accended with wonderus indignation, encouraginge his noble warriors, soe furiuslie assayled them that first he cawsed them to geve ground, and consequentlie, as altogether enraged, hee putt them all to flight, and had committed wonderful slaughter if they hadd not been verie swifte, and the night verie darke and farr spente. Canutus being thus foyled travayled all the night toward Winchester, and harborowed himself in a safe place. Edmundus, as I find in summ writers, didd not pursewe his adversarie, but deflected towardes Sarisberie, minding to succoure his people there, being in distresse through another rout of the Danes. Not longe after Canutus was there himself in presence, soe that addressing their companies they fought not far from that cittie. The conflict was crewell to beholde, while their stomackes and boddies weare freshe, and continued in equall proportion until the nighte departed them. The next daye from the verie rising of the sunne the Englishmen stoode in arraye untill that Canutus came unto the fight, which was mantayned noblie and with like end on both sides with much slaughter and semblable conclusion the evening dissevered them. The day ensewenge the armies took reste, refreshinge themselves with meate, and heaping all the dead carkasses together they boorned them, neither yeat in the meanwhile didd they lay their weapons from them, for on both sides they wanted xx thousand. The night following Canutus privilie bie stealithe removed his tentes and went towards London, which citie was almost beeseeged with his navie. Edmundus, assone as the daylight descried the departure of his adversaries, followed their steppes, and with final conflicts raysed the seige, whereof in greate pompe and triumph hee entered the citie.

Supposing Ironside to have come from Gillingham, where the first battle was unquestionably fought, by way of Sarum, he would easily be able to march along the Portway, and on

his way to occupy and leave behind him the formidable strongholds of Quarley Hill and Burry Hill; while the very name of Danebury lying to the south-east tempts us to think that was Cnut's position. The roads to Winchester and to London, as we have seen, would be easily reached, and Sarum was open to him. If the "watch tower" were situated on either the Harroway or Weyhill, we know how plainly it must have been visible to a large tract of country. The manor of Sarson, which gives its name to one of the tithings of the Hundred of Andover, is called Soresdene in Domesday.

The name of Weyhill, by which the parish is popularly known, really indicates only one particular feature of its physical geography; but it has come to be the designation of the whole area included within the parish boundaries, and although this change of name is not without historical significance, it does, perhaps, obscure in some degree that continuity of story which in all other respects is so distinctly marked. The old form of the name is Wee, or in the Norman-French of early documents "la Waye." Thus, Lydgate in his poem, Piers Plowman, written about 1365, says :—

At Wy and at Winchester I went to the fair

The parish is officially known as Penton Grafton, and thus keeps up the most interesting traditions of its history.

It derives this name from the holders of one of the manors, the Benedictine Abbey of Grestein, founded by Herluin de Coutville, near the mouth of the river Seine in Normandy.

The Doomsday Book gives the following account of this manor :—

*Abbatia de Greistan tenet de rege Penitone. Eddid regina tenuit pro manerio Tunc geldavit pro iii. hidis modo pro nichilo Terra est vj. carrucatæ. In domino sunt ij. carucatæ et v. villani et xxvij bordarii cum iij. carrucatis. Ibi ecclesia et v. servi. Tempore Regis Edwardi et post valuit x. libras modo viij. libras.*

The abbey of Grestein holds Penton of the King; Queen Edid (Edith) held it as a manor. It was then assessed at three hides, but now at nothing. Here are six ploughlands, two in demesne, five villeins and twenty-seven borderers with three ploughlands. Here also is a church and five servants. In the time of King Edward it was worth ten pounds, now eight pounds.

So that in Weyhill, as in Kimpton, we have as one of the earliest characters in the story, Earl Godwin's sweet daughter,

the gentle, lovely, and accomplished Queen of Edward the Confessor. It is not necessary to repeat what has been said of her under Kimpton. And in that article I have also described the condition of the dependents of a manor in Anglo-Saxon times. And I need only draw attention to the number and condition of the population of Penton Grafton at the time of the survey. There were 27 borderers or cottagers; nearly twice the number in the whole three manors in Kimpton.

In the other manor of Clanville there were four borderers, so that within the area of the parish of Weyhill, as we know it, we are certain that the families may thus be reckoned—

| | |
|---|---|
| Families of the Lords or of the Reeve ... | 2 |
| Villeins ... ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| Servi ... ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| Borderers ... ... ... ... ... | 31 |
| | 43 |

Which shows a very large amount of prosperity.

A quotation from a charter of Richard I. will now be useful as showing how Queen Edith's manor became the property of the Abbey of Grestein. It is taken from an Inspeximus Charter of Edward II. (ii. 21), in which he recites the earlier grant.

*Ricardus Dei Gratia rex Angliæ dux Normanniæ, &c. Sciatis me concessisse et presenti carta nostra confirmasse omnes subscriptas donationes factas Deo et ecclesiæ Sanctæ Mariæ de Grestein et monarchis ibidem Deo Serventibus ex dono Willielmi regis Anglorum et ducis Normanorum in Anglia quicquid habebat in Penitona in terra in pratis in silvis in consuetudinibus et aliis villæ pertinentibus cum tota ecclesia.*

. . . . . .

*Data per manum Willmi de Longo Campo Cancellarii nostro Eliensis electi. apud Westm xiiij. die Novembris anno primo Regni nostri.*

Richard, by the grace of God King of England, Duke of Normandy, &c., know ye that I have granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed, all the underwritten gifts made to God and the church of Saint Mary of Grestein and to the monks there serving God, by the gift of William, King of England and Duke of Normandy, whatever they had in England, in Penton, in land, in meadow, in woods, in customs, and other things belonging to the ville with the whole church.

Given by the hand of William Long Champ, our Chancellor (Bishop) elect of Ely at Westminster the fourteenth day of November, in the first year of our reign (1189).

In Gough's Alien Priories, the date of the foundation of the Abbey of Saint Mary Grestein is given as A.D. 1140. But this is an obvious mistake, as we see by the passage in Domesday it was in possession of "Penitone" before A.D. 1066, and the date should probably be 1040. Beside the manor of Penton this abbey held the manor of Wilmington, in Sussex, by gift of Robert, Earl of Moreton, in the time of William II., and an alien priory was established there; and they also held the manor of Gratinges, in the parish of S. Olave Creting, Suffolk, by gift of Robert, Earl of Moreton, in the reign of William the Conqueror. It

"Was taken care of by some monks belonging thereunto, or by their agent, the prior of Wilmington, their chief cell in England. King Edward III. granted this to Tydeman de Lymber, a merchant, and afterward the abbot and convent sold it by the king's license to Sir Edmond de la Pole. Tanner's Notitia, p. 511. The parish of Creting St. Mary, in Suffolk, which was most usually styled the priory of Creting, was cell to this abbey, and after the suppression of these foreign houses was by King Henry VI. made part of the endowment of Eton College. Tanner's Notitia, p. 511." *Alien Priories, Vol. I., page* 89.

That the Abbot of Grestein spent some of his time in England is plain from several entries on the Patent Rolls. On those occasions if he visited Penton it would probably be only to receive the *Compotus* from the steward. His residence would most likely be at Wilmington.

In Letters Patent, dated at Canterbury, July 9th, 1285, Reginald Abbot, of Grestein, nominates Nicholas, de Magna Villa, his fellow monk, and John de Grenstead, clerk. A further clause permits the Abbot to be quit of summonses before the justices of the forest for four years (14 *Edward I., memb.* 10). So far as this exemption applies to Penton it would exempt him for the time from attendance at the Court of the Forest of Chute and Finkley.

The same date (14 *Edward I., memb.* 10) a mandate is given to the escheator on this side the Trent to restore the temporalities of St. Mary Grestein to Reginald, called "Carvel," elected Abbot and confirmed by the Dean and Chapter of Lisieux, and a writ *de intendendo* is directed to the tenants. A memorandum is appended that the said abbot did not have letters of the dean and chapter testifying his confirmation directed to the king, but only to the Bishop of Lisieux (the diocese in which Grestein was situated), praying a favour of his benediction; and the king restored

the temporalities by special grace; and Master William de Lunda, keeper of the wardrobe, has gone bail to the Chancellor to have the said letters sent.

By Letters Patent, dated at Pontefract, May 21st, 1327, William, Abbot of Grestein, staying beyond seas, has letters nominating Richard de Milleward and William Conreye, his attorneys, for three years. By fine of one mark at the instance of Adam de Brom, Sussex.

In 1330, by letters patent, dated at Aseney, July 2 (4 *Edward III. memb.* 11), protection is given for one year for the Abbot of Grestein.

As we shall have to speak of the alien priories when dealing with Monxton and Abbots Ann, it may be well to describe what they were, and it will be best to quote for that purpose J. Nichol's Introductory Preface to *Alien Priories*, Vol. I., to which the reader is referred for references to the Rolls of Parliament, the Close Rolls, Rymers Fœdera, &c.

Alien priories were cells of the religious houses in England which belonged to foreign monasteries. For when manors or tithes were given to foreign convents, the monks, either to increase their own rule, or rather to have faithful stewards of their revenues, built a small convent there for the reception of such a number as they thought proper, and constituted priors over them. Within these cells there was the same distinction as in those priories which were cells subordinate to some great abbey. Some of these were conventual, and having priors of their own choosing, thereby became entire societies within themselves, and received the revenues belonging to their several houses for their own use and benefit, paying only the ancient apport acknowledgment, or obvention, at first the surplusage to the foreign house, but others depended entirely on the foreign houses, who appointed and removed their priors at pleasure. These transmitted all their revenues to the foreign head houses, for which reason their estates were generally seized to carry on the wars between England and France, and restored to them again on return of peace. These alien priories were, most of them, founded by such as had foreign abbies founded by themselves or by some of their family. The whole number is not exactly ascertained. The Monasticon hath given a list of 100. Weever (p. 338) says 110; an account is here given of 146. A few in Normandy, mentioned in Neustria Pia only (whose lands have not yet been discovered), are supposed to have been founded by some of the ancient English nobility or their descendants. Some of these cells were made indigenous, or denizon, or endenized.

The alien priories were first seized by Edward I. 1285 (*see quotation from Patent Roll for that year given above*), on the breaking out of the war between France and England, and it appears from a roll that Edward II. also seized them, though this is not mentioned by our historians, and to these the Act of restitution 1 Edward III. seems to refer.

In 1337 Edward III. confiscated their estates and let out the priories themselves, with all their lands and tenements, at his pleasure for 23 years, at the end of which term, peace being concluded between the two nations, he restored their estates 1361, as appears by his letters patent to that of Montacute, county Somerset, printed at large in Rymer (vol. vi., p. 311), and translated in Weever's Funeral Monuments (p. 339), and in the appendix to Vol. 11. No. vi. At other times he granted their lands, or lay pensions out of them, to diverse noblemen. They were also sequestered during Richard II.'s reign, and the head monasteries abroad had the king's license to sell their lands to other religious houses here, or to any particular persons who wanted to endow others.

Henry IV. began his reign with showing some favour to the alien priories, restoring all the conventual ones, only reserving to him in time of war what they paid in time of peace to the foreign abbies.

They were all dissolved by Act of Parliament 2 Henry V. and all their estates vested in the crown, except some lands granted to the college of Fothringhay. The Act of dissolution is not printed in the statute books, but is to be found entire in Rymer's Fœdera (ix., 283), and in the Parliament Rolls (vol. iv., p. 32). In general these lands were appropriated to religious uses. Henry VI. endowed his foundations at Eton and Cambridge with the lands of the alien priories, in pursuance of his father's design to appropriate them all to a noble college at Oxford. Others were granted in fee to the prelates, nobility, or private persons. Such as remained in the Crown were granted by Henry VI. 1440, to Archbishop Chichley, &c., and they became part of his and the Royal foundation, J. N., Aug. 3, 1779.

This very valuable account will, if read carefully, afford a key to much of the history of Penton Grafton, and to many things which will appear in the histories of the other parishes in the valley, and I am therefore particularly glad to give it entire.

It will now be necessary to go back to the Domesday survey to notice the other manor comprised within the boundaries of the parish of Penton Grafton. This is the account given of it—

Hugh de Port holds Clavesfelle (Clanville) and Herbert holds it under him and Azor held it allodially of King Edward. It was then, as now, assessed at 1½ hides. Here is one ploughland which is in demesne with 4 borderers. Its value in the time of King Edward and afterwards was xxx shillings and is now 20 shillings——.

It may be well to record here that, when in the occupation of Mr. Chown, some Roman buildings were traced in the land by his house at Clanville, and foundations and roofing tiles of limestone were found.

How long Clanville was held separately I do not know; but by 1316 it had come into the same hands as Ramridge,

as appears from the following extract from the Patent Roll of 9 Edward II. (*m.* 23), in which the name of the parish should be specially noticed. The instrument is one reciting and confirming gifts to the Abbey of Grestein.

*Translation*—The King to all to whom, &c., greeting, &c. We have granted and confirmed the gift which William de Mersse made to the aforesaid Abbot and convent of that whole land with its appurtenances which sometime belonged to Randulph de la Hull and Alice his wife in Penton Gresteyn and Clanfeld, to have and to hold them for us and our heirs as much as in us lies to the aforesaid Abbot and convent and their successors. We do grant and confirm, as by the charter and writing of their gift aforesaid which they thence have is reasonably testified, &c. At Westminster xxiii day of April.

So far as the manor goes then, it will be safe to regard Ramridge and Clanville as by this time united in one holding. A MS. in the library of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, speaks of "Tria manoria Ramrugge in Hamptonia, Conock in Wiltonia, Marshe in Buckinghamia," as given to God's House of Ewelme, which expression seems to imply that the Hampshire manors were known by the name of Ramridge only.

The Corporation of Andover among its muniments possess copies of four very interesting deeds, the originals of which are in the Public Record Office. These copies were made for use in the suit about the site of Weyhill Fair, of which we shall have to speak later on.

The three earliest are what are known as "*Inquisitiones post mortem*."

It may be well to explain that these were enquiries held by a sworn jury of the district. The jury was summoned by virtue of a writ directed to the County Escheator, before whom the inquest was held—when any tenant in capite died. The Court thus formed had to enquire—first, of what lands the person died possessed; secondly, by what rents or services the same lands were held; and thirdly, who was the next heir and what was the heir's age. The object of obtaining this information was that the proper officers might be able to levy the duties and services thereupon due; for on the death of each tenant in capite a tax termed "*a relief*" was claimed by the Crown, and the heir could not take possession until the *relief* was paid and homage done. Moreover, if the heir was a minor the Crown claimed to administer the estate until he could make proof of the expiration of his legal infancy and perform homage.

Translation of an Inquisition (*Ex Bundel Escaet de Anno Regni Regis Edwi Tertii xxxvto. pte* 1. *a. no.* 61) from a copy in the possession of the Corporation of Andover, A.D. 1361.

Inquisition made at Andever in the county of Southampton on the last day of November in the thirty-fifth year of King Edward the Third after the Conquest. Before John de Estbury, Escheator of the Lord King by virtue of a certain writ of the said Lord King directed to the said escheator and sewed to this Inquisition. By the oath of Richard atte Mere, John Mewe, Thomas Bulkeput, Symon Gyot, John atte Hale, Robert atte Court, Robert, Howlere, John le Eye, John Crol, John Nyweman, Henry Morannd and Walter Uppehull. Who say that Thomas de la Pole, Knight, deceased, held in his demesne, as of fee on the day on which he died the manor of Ramrugge with the advowson of the church of the same manor with its belongings in the county aforesaid—of the Lord King in capite by the service of a fifth part of one knight's fee. In which manor is a capital messuage with diverse buildings which is worth nothing a year beyond reprisals, and one windmill which is worth two shillings a year beyond reprisals. Again there are there two carrucates of land of which each carrucate contains in itself one hundred acres whereof one hundred acres can be sown a year, and each acre when it ought to be sown ought to be worth for seed iijd. a year, and when it lies void it has no value a year because it lies in the common. Again there are there iiij acres of meadow which are worth viiis. a year, at the rate of ijs. an acre. Again there is there pasture for xij oxen ccc. sheep which cannot be enlarged, nor is it of any yearly value because it lies in the common. Again there are there x acres of pasture in several, every acre of which is worth iiijd. a year. Again there are there fifty acres of wood, the pasture and underwood of which is worth nothing a year on account of the shadow of the trees. Again there are there iij acres of wood in several, of which the underwood and pasture is worth xij pence a year. And there is there three pounds of rent held for fourteen shillings a year payable at the feasts of the Purification of Blessed Mary and of St. Michael in equal proportions. Again there are there vij yardlands the rent and service of each of which is worth ten shillings a year, and ix half yardlands, the rent and service of each of which is worth six shillings and eight pence a year, to be paid yearly at the feast of St. Michael. Again the pleas and perquisites are worth five shillings a year.

And they say that the same Thomas did not hold any other land or tenement in his demesne as of fee of the Lord King in capite nor of others in the aforesaid county on the day on which he died. And that the said Thomas died on the twenty-fourth day of October last past, and that Michael de la Pole, brother of the said Thomas, aged thirty years and more is his next heir.

In witness of which the aforesaid jurors have affixed their seals to this Inquisition. Given at the place day and year above mentioned.

It is more than a little remarkable that in this document, the date of which is 1361, we should have a description of the manor so very much as we see it now, though more than

five hundred years have elapsed since it was written. The many magnificent trees at present growing in Ramridge Park are the successors (or in some cases perhaps may be the very trees themselves) of those whose shade was more grateful on the hot days of summer than profitable at the annual account at Michaelmas. The "capital messuage with divers buildings," the "common," the wood known still as "Ramridge Copse," all derive an additional interest from this clear proof of their historical continuity.

There is a curious little history in connection with one of these "yardlands" mentioned in this inquisition. A yardland (*virgata*) was a measure of land, the actual area of which is very uncertain, and we safely conjecture that the nine mentioned in the inquisition were the smaller holdings in the parish. It is given in Woodward and Wilks' History of Hampshire, but as usual in that book without any reference, and up to the present I have been unable to verify it.

In 1246 William de Devenys called in question the right of Lucy de Montagu to a yardland in *la Wage*, of which Roger de Wanton and his wife Catherine had warranted to her the title. William claimed the land, as his inheritance of which, in the time of King John, Gilbert, his ancestor, was seized. Katherine's attorney offers on their part the wager of battle in the person of William Cotele, a freeman. William de Devenys accepts the challenge. The battle is arranged, William giving 40s. for license of agreement. The plaintiff's pledgmen for the settlement of the business were Geoffrey de Maundevill and others. Walter le Bretun, William Milkesop and others were pledged for the defendants" (*vol. iii., p. 187*).

It will be well to give now translations of the other Inquisitions, which are taken like the last from a copy among the Andover Archives, but the originals are also in the Public Record Office. ("*Ex Bundel Escaet de Anno Regni Regis Henr. 5ti. 8o. no. 56*") A.D. 1420.

An Inquisition taken at Andever in the County of Southampton on Saturday next after the feast of Saint Leonard in the eighth year of the reign of King Henry the fifth after the Conquest, before John Parsons the King's escheator for the said County, by virtue of a writ of the Lord King directed to the same escheator and sewed to this inquisition. By the oath of Robert Lylye Richard Pynmere John Forster, Nicholas Notebem John Kyngeston Nicholas Wale Nicholas Taillour John Blyke John Sunbury John Colyns Robert Idde and Thomas Tilly, who say upon their oath that Thomas de la Pole, Knight, named in the said writ, on the day on which he died held of the Lord King in capite the manor of Ramrugge with its appurtenances together with the advowson of the church of Wee in the said County in his demesne as of fee. And that the site of the said manor is worth nothing

a year beyond reprisals. And that there are belonging to the said manor ninety-five acres of arable land, price of each acre fourpence, two hundred acres of fallow land, which are worth on the whole three shillings a year, twenty acres of pasture, each acre worth twopence. Twenty acres of underwood which are worth two shillings a year. Twenty shillings of rent, of rent of assise issueing out of divers lands and tenements in the said ville of Ramrugge and seven pounds of rent issuing out of divers lands and tenements which the tenants hold there at the will of the lord. Payable yearly at the terms of Easter and St. Michael by equal portions. And so the said manor with its appurtenances reaches the value of ten pounds. Again they say that the said manor with its appurtenances is held of the Lord King in capite by the service of the seventh part of a Knight's fee. Again they say that the aforesaid Thomas named in the said writ, did not hold any more lands or tenements in the said county on the day on which he died, neither in demesne nor in service of the Lord King, nor of others. They say also that the aforesaid Thomas de la Pole died the 21st day of August last past, and that Thomas de la Pole the son of the said Thomas de la Pole is the next heir of the same Thomas de la Pole, and is of the age of three years and more. In witness of which the Jurors aforesaid have affixed their seals to this Inquisition. Given the day, place and year above written.

(*Ex Bundel Escaet de Anno regni Regis Henr. 6ti. ix. o. n. 45*) A.D. 1430.—"Sutht Inquisition taken at Odyham the aforesaid County the third day of November in the ninth year of the reign of King Henry the Sixth after the Conquest. Before Lawrence Gaweyn escheator of the Lord King in the County aforesaid, by virtue of a writ of the Lord King directed to the said escheator and sewed to this inquisition. By the oath of Roger Cheston, Thomas Stukele, Thomes atte Riche William Graunt Robert Tauerner Robert atte Halle John atte Brooke John Graunt William atte Nasshe Robert Wodele Robert atte Den and Lawrence Serle, jurors, who say upon their oath that by the death of Thomas de la Pole, Knight, and by reason of the minority of Thomas de la Pole the son and heir of the said Thomas de la Pole the father named (in the writ) the Manor of Ramrugge with its belongings came into the hands of the Lord Henry late King of England father of the present Lord King, and is now in the hands of the same Lord King, the which manor the said Thomas de la Pole the father held on the day on which he died in his demesne as of fee to wit to him and his heirs male issuing of his body by virtue of a certain fine levied at Westminster in the Court of the Lord Richard the Second formerly King of England in the Octave of the Holy Trinity in the seventh year of his reign before Robert Bealknap and his fellows, Justices of the said Richard late King's bench, by which fine Michael de la Pole, Knight, granted that Thomas de la Pole the father named in the said writ, by the name of Thomas de la Pole, Knight, the son of Michael de la Pole, Knight, who held the aforesaid manor for his whole life, by grant of the said Michael should have and hold the said manor with its belongings to him and to his heirs male issuing from his body. To hold of the Lord King his heirs by service thence due and custom for ever. So that if the same Thomas should die without heirs male issuing from his body the manor of Ramrugge with its belongings should remain to William de la Pole the son of the said

Michael and his heirs male issuing from his body to hold of the Lord King and his heirs by the aforesaid service for ever. And if the said William should die without heirs male issuing of his body then the said Manor of Ramrugge with its belongings should remain to Richard de la Pole son of the said Michael and his heirs male issuing from his body. To hold of the Lord King and his heirs by the aforesaid service for ever, and if the said Richard should die without heirs male issuing from his body then the Manor of Ramrugge with its belongings shall revert to the aforesaid Michael and his heirs to hold of the Lord King and his heirs by the aforesaid service for ever, by virtue of which fine the same Thomas the father was then seized in his demesne as of fee as is aforesaid and afterwards the aforesaid William de la Pole and Richard de la Pole died, to wit each of them without heirs male issuing of their body, and afterwards the aforesaid Thomas the father died the aforesaid Thomas his son under age for this reason standing in the custody of the King, who likewise died the 27th day of July last past without heirs male issuing of his body, for which reason the aforesaid manor with its belongings reverted to William de la Pole now Earl of Suffolk as kinsman and heir of him Michael, specified in the same fine by virtue of the aforesaid fine, to wit the son of Michael the son of Michael specified in the said fine it ought to revert. And they say that the said Earl William is of the age of thirty years and more, and they say that the site of the manor aforesaid is worth nothing a year in all outgoings beyond reprisals and there are in the same manor ninety-five acres of arable land of which each acre is worth a year in all outgoings beyond reprisals two-pence. Two hundred acres of fallow land which is worth nothing a year, twenty acres of pasture of which each acre is worth twopence a year. Twenty acres of underwood which are worth on the whole twelvepence a year. Seven pounds of rent of assise from divers tenements at the will of the lord there to be paid yearly at the feast of Easter and the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel equally, and twenty shillings of rent of the rent of divers free tenants of the said manor to be paid annually at the aforesaid feasts equally. And they say that the aforesaid manor is held of the Lord King in capite by the service of a fifth part of a Knight's fee, and they say that neither less or more land or tenement have come to the hands of the aforesaid Lord Henry the King aforesaid nor into the hands of the present Lord King, by the death of the aforesaid Thomas the father, nor by reason of the minority of Thomas the son of the same, nor are in his hands. And they say that Katherine sister of the said Thomas the son is his next heir, and is of the age of fourteen years. In testimony of which the Jurors have affixed their seals to this inquisition given the day year and place above written.

The inquisitions of 1420 and 1430 give almost identical details of the manor. It would be very interesting to examine into those details more closely, but it is not expedient to take up the required space here. The fact of importance is perfectly clear that the prominent features of common wood and pasture, and the site of the capital messuage, were then as we see them still.

As before the date of the earliest of these inquisitions, 1361, we have shown reason to believe Clanville had become absorbed into the larger manor of Ramrugge. There is no reason for attempting to identify any particular features, for the whole parish must be included.

The names of the holders of the manor, however, take us into one of the most distressful periods of English history, and we are thus introduced to a man who bore a prominent part in the troubles of the time, and had no small share in bringing about the disasters from which the country suffered so much.

It will be seen in the inquisitions just quoted that the first member of the family of De la Pole mentioned is Sir Thomas, who died on the 24th of October, 1361. He was the son of William de la Pole, merchant, of Kingston-upon-Hull, 2nd Baron of the Exchequer, who died in 1366.

This William de la Pole had three sons—Michael, Thomas, and Edmond. The eldest son, Michael de la Pole, was born about 1330, knighted before 1355, created Earl of Suffolk 1385, and Chancellor of England. Attainted February 1388, died 5th Sept., 1389.

Sir Thomas de la Pole appears to have been the second son of William, the merchant of Hull. As we see from the Inquisition taken at Andover in 1361, he died 24th October, 1361, seized of the manor of Ramridge, and, leaving no issue, his brother Michael just mentioned became his heir. Edmond de la Pole was probably the youngest son.

Michael de la Pole, the favourite of King Richard the Second, who, by the death of his brother, Sir Thomas, in 1361, inherited the manor of Ramridge with his other property, was a most conspicuous character in his day. The weak and foolish King, who was ready to sacrifice his kingdom for his favourites, made him Earl of Suffolk and Lord Chancellor, and allowed him five hundred and twenty pounds out of the profits of the county of Suffolk and the estates of William Ufford, late Earl of Suffolk. But in the next year he was removed from his office of Chancellor at the demand of Parliament, impeached, and summoned to appear and give account of his administration, and, being found guilty of mismanagement, was compelled to restore all the grants he had received of the King, which were so enormous that even the King himself was surprised at their amount. He was in addition confined in Windsor Castle. After the

defeat of the army raised by the other favourite, the Duke of Ireland, Michael de la Pole retired to Calais, where his brother, Edmund de la Pole, was governor of the castle. Edmond, however, refused to harbour his brother Michael without the consent of Lord William Beauchamp, governor of the town, who sent the ex-Chancellor back to England as a prisoner, and was himself imprisoned for doing so. Together with the Duke of Ireland Michael de la Pole was banished in 1388, and died 5th September, 1389.

This Michael de la Pole, the favourite, had two sons, one of whom, Richard, we can pass without further notice than that before 1430, as shown by the last quoted inquisition, he had died without male issue.

His other son was, like himself, named Michael de la Pole, and was born about 1361; he was restored as Earl of Suffolk, and died 14th September, 1415. He had four sons, Michael, William, Thomas, and John.

The eldest of them, Michael de la Pole, was born about 1392; succeeded his father as Earl of Suffolk, but the same year was slain at the battle of Agincourt, 25th October, 1415, leaving no male heirs.

The second son (the one with whom we have the chief concern) was William Earl of Suffolk, heir to his brother Michael just mentioned. He was born 16th October, 1396, made Knight of the Garter 1420, created Duke of Suffolk 1448, and murdered 2nd May, 1450. He had married Alice, daughter and heiress of Sir Thomas Chaucer, Knight, son of Sir Geoffrey Chaucer, the famous English poet. She died 1474, and is buried at Ewelm.

The third son of Michael de la Pole was Sir Thomas de la Pole, the inquisition on whom is printed above, from which it will be seen that he died the 21st of August, 1420, leaving a little son also named Thomas, only three years old, and a daughter, Katherine, fourteen years old. The boy died, as the deed informs us, on the 27th July, 1430. So that the manor of Ramridge then went, according to the provisions of a deed made in 1384, to William, second son of Michael (who had died in 1415), at that time Earl and afterwards Duke of Suffolk, mentioned above.

The direct male line, it will be observed, had twice failed in each case with a Thomas, and in each case the manor of Ramridge had by that failure gone to an elder brother.

The pedigree of the De la Poles is of necessity rather com-

plicated, but may perhaps be found clearer in the following diagram. It is of great interest to us, as showing the importance of the former owners of the manor :—

William de la Pole, of Kingston upon Hull, merchant, died 1366.

- Sir Michael de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk and Lord Chancellor, the favourite of King Richard II., died 1389.
  - Michael de la Pole, born 1361, Earl of Suffolk, died 14 Sept., 1415.
    - Michael de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk, born 1392; killed at the battle of Agincourt 25 Oct., 1415.
    - William de la Pole, Earl and Duke of Suffolk, born 1396, murdered 2 May, 1450. Married Alice, daughter of Sir Thomas Chaucer.
      - John de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, married Elizabeth of York, second daughter of Richard, Duke of York, and Cecilie Neville, Sister of the Queen.
  - Richard de la Pole, died without issue.
- Sir Thomas de la Pole, died 1361.
- Sir Edmond de la Pole, Governor of Calais Castle.
  - Sir Thomas de la Pole, died 21 August, 1420.
    - Thomas, 3 years old in 1420, died 1430.
    - Katherine, 14 years old in 1420.

The gift of the manor of Ramridge to Ewelme College by William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, was so completely the turning point in the history of the parish of Penton Grafton that I hope it will be excused if I pause to tell the story as briefly as possible of his tragic end.

"We are lost," muttered an English soldier as the dying cry of poor Joan of Arc went up from the flames, "we are lost, we have burned a saint," and it was so. The English cause in France was irretrievably lost. Burgundy allied itself with Charles the Seventh. Paris, after a sudden revolt, surrendered to the King, and the English dominions were at once reduced to Normandy, and the fortresses of Picardy, Maine, and Anjou. To preserve these the English soldiers, shrunk as they were to a mere handful, struggled with a bravery as desperate as in their days of triumph. But

in spite of all efforts those at the head of affairs saw that success was no longer possible. A fresh effort for peace was made by William de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk, who had now become the minister of Henry VI., and negotiated for his master a marriage with Marguerite of Anjou. Her father, Réné, the titular King of Sicily and Jerusalem, was also duke of the provinces of Maine and Anjou, and these were surrendered by the English minister as the price of a match which Suffolk regarded as the prelude to a final peace.

The head of the war party, the Duke of Gloucester, was found dead in his bed at St. Edmondsbury. But the difficulties he had raised foiled Suffolk in his negotiations, and by 1451 the English were finally expelled from the soil of France.

But the ruinous issue of this great struggle roused England to a burst of fury against the Government, to whose weakness and credulity it attributed its disasters. On the meeting of Parliament at Leicester in 1450 the Duke of Suffolk was impeached. The King, fearing what might come from the fury of the people, banished the Duke for five years; the Duke himself looking upon this exile as a proper means to secure him from worse harm, therefore speedily embarked for France. But he was followed by a ship called the Nicholas, belonging to the Duke of Exeter, then Constable of the Tower, and being taken was brought into Dover, where his head was struck off on the side of a cock boat, and the head and body were left on Dover sands, where they were found by a chaplain of his, and taken up and buried either at Wingfield, in Suffolk, or at Kingston upon Hull. He served 24 years in France, and 17 without ever returning home. He was Privy Counsellor 15 years, a Knight of the Garter 30. This slight sketch of the troublous times in which the latter part of his life was passed will enable us the better to appreciate the calm and pious plans and purposes which are exhibited in the document of which I will give a translation, taken like the Inquisitions given above, from a copy among the Andover muniments.

From the Patent Roll of the 15th Henry VI., m. 3 :—

The King to all to whom, &c., greeting, know ye that of our special grace and for two hundred and fifty marks paid to us into our hanaper, we have granted and given licence for us and our heirs, as much as lies in us, to our dear and faithful cousen, William de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk, and Alice, his wife, they and either of them which shall survive for a certain almshouse, of two chaplains and thirteen poor

men, by the same Earl and Alice his wife, or either of them, their heirs and assigns, to be instituted, placed and deputed; to wit, chaplains to celebrate divine service, and they, the chaplains and poor men aforesaid, to pray for the good estate of us and of them, the said Earl and Alice, while they shall live, and for our soul, and the souls of them the Earl and Alice after we have departed this life, and for the souls of our ancestors, and for the souls of the parents and benefactors of them the Earl and Alice, and of all the faithful departed, and for the fulfilment and execution of certain prayers and works of charity and devotion, according to the order of them the Earl and Alice, or either of them, in this case made and provided. To begin, make, found, and establish at Ewelme, in the county of Oxford, as they or either of them shall be able, for them, the chaplains and poor men, to live and inhabit for ever, and that the same house which hereafter shall be erected, made, founded, and established shall be called Ewelm Almeshouse for ever, and that the same chaplains and poor men in the same house hereafter so erected, founded and established by the aforesaid Earl and Alice, or either of them, shall be a body corporate in fact and in name, having perpetual succession and having the aforesaid house at the same time to live in. Also they shall have a common seal to be used in the business of the aforesaid house for ever, and that they shall be persons fit and capable of acquiring and receiving any lands, tenements, rents, advowsons, and of prosecuting and defending all manner of actions and disputes in any Court and place, and of pleading in the same. Moreover we grant and give licence for us and for our heirs as is aforesaid, as much as in us lies, as to the aforesaid Earl and Alice that they, or either of them or the heirs of them, so to any other person whatever that they may give and assign to the same chaplain and poor men and the aforesaid house, or the house that shall be founded and established, lands, tenements, rents, and possessions, and advowsons and patronage of churches, both of those which are held of us in capite or are otherwise held of us, and those which are held of other persons than of us up to the value of 100 marks a year, as they shall be able. To have to them and their successors as well for their house and habitation as for aid in their sustentation for ever. And to the same chaplains and poor men and their successors that they may receive, purchase, and appropriate to their whole and sole use such lands and tenements, rents and possessions, and advowsons and patronage of churches aforesaid up to the value of one hundred marks a year, as from the same Earl and Alice, or either of them or the heirs of them, or from any other person whatsoever as shall desire to give, grant, or assign such lands and tenements, rents and possessions, and advowsons and patronage to them, and that they may be able to hold such lands and tenements, rents and possessions to them and to their successors for ever. In like manner by the tenor of these presents we have given special licence, the statute *de terris* and of mortmain notwithstanding. Nevertheless by inquisitions whence they ought to be taken and in the chancery of us or our heirs rightly returned shall be tried, that it may be done without loss or prejudice to us or our heirs, or of any others whatever. In testimony whereof witness the King at his manor of.....gton the third day of July.

By writ of Privy Seal.

*Note in the margin:*

Memorandum that on the twenty-fourth day of February in the twentieth year of the reign of the within written King, the chaplains and poor men within written purchased to themselves and their successors, lands and tenements to the value of fifty-nine pounds a year, to have and to hold to them and their successors for ever in full satisfaction of the hundred marks within written.

It is no part of my present purpose to give any account of the "Almshouse, or house of God," at Ewelme, except as the present owners of the manor of Ramridge. But I desire to draw attention to a most interesting pamphlet by the Rev. H. K. Simcox, rector of Ewelme, which not only gives a very valuable historical account of the foundation, but makes some suggestions which deserve earnest consideration. It is entitled "Suggestions for the Amendment and Improvement of the Scheme under which the 'Almshouse or House of God' at Ewelme is now Administered." Printed for private circulation. Wallingford Bradford, printer and stationer, St. Mary Street. Mr. Simcox quotes in the appendix the preamble of the original statutes, which, as it shows much of the personality of the nobleman by whose pious gift the parish of Penton Grafton became the property of Ewelme College, I feel it ought to be reproduced here.

In the name of God, be it knowne to all trewe cristen pepull the contentes of this present foundacion seyng, heryng and undyrstanding. We, William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolke, and Alice my wyfe, Duchesse of Suffolke, desyre helth in bodye, grace in sowle, and everlastyng joy to opteyne. Because all cristen pepull mekely and devoultly consideryng how by the upholdyng and mayntenyng of divine service, and by the exercyse of works of mercy in the state of this dedely lyfe in the last dredeful day of dome they shall with the mercy of oure Lord take here parte and porcion of joye and blysse with them that shall be saved aught of reson to have a grete and fervent desyre and a besy charge in mynde to uphold and mayntene divine service, and to exercise, fulfille and do works of mercy before the end of their dedly lyfe. And namely to suche persons that may by no faculte of lawfull crafte gete here bodyly sustynnaunce. But fothyrmore bene betyn with so grete penury of poverte that for lakke of sustynnaunce, and they were not by almesse relevyd they should lyghtly pysh.

Thys we devoutly consideryng Willm and Alyce above sayde have beldyt erecte and foundid an howse of almesse for two prestes and xiij. pore men to dwell and to be susteyned in the same all tymes to come in perpetuite set and edified upon a certyne grownde of oures purteynyng to our maner and Lordshippe of Ewelme in the Cownte of Oxenforde annexid unto the churchyerde of the paryshe church of Ewelme in the west syde, the sayde church beyng in the est syde of the said house of almesse.

But for more clere and playner fundacion ordinance and stabiliment of the said howse and persones the whyche shall be susteyned foundyd and relevyd in the same. The might of the fadir, the wysdom of the son, the goodnesse of the holy goste thre persones in oon godhede, humbly we beseche of his grace prcipally be oure helpe socoure and spede the whyche called in and aspired we procede in thys manere.

The Chaplains and poor men of Ewelme to the present day hold Courts Baron as lords of the manor and owners of the soil.

If we look back at the records, quoted at what I fear my readers have found such wearisome length, we shall have no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that there can be no place in England where the history is more clear and more uninterrupted. We have the certain evidence of the Doomsday Survey that the manor belonged to Edith, Queen of Edward the Confessor, so that the latest date we can fix as the start of its recorded history is that of Edith's marriage, 1043. Seized by William the Conqueror and by him bestowed on the Abbey of Grestein, it was by that Alien Priory sold to one of the family of De la Pole, and by another member of that family given to the "House of God" at Ewelme in 1437, and as the college are the present owners it will be seen that there is not a break in the title for at least eight centuries and a half. And great additional interest is derived from the fact that the transcript of the deeds here quoted has been made from the actual papers used by the Counsellor in the great trial about the fair ground to prove the title. It will be noticed that counsels brief had positive evidence, going back to a time before the reign of Richard II., the legal limit beyond which it is not supposed to be necessary to show that "the memory of man runneth not to the contrary."

The manor house itself is at once interesting and beautiful. As originally designed by Adams it consisted only of the central block; the wings were added by Mr. Marsh. The ceilings, cornices, mantels, and other ornamental details are exquisite examples of Adams' best style. On the ceilings occur the initials in monogram of Mr. Gawler, by whom it was built about 1779, and his coat of arms, viz., Gu. on a bend, argent three caltraps sable, impaling a stag's head between three cross crosslets fitchée. Crest a martlett sable. There are many remarkable trees in the well-wooded grounds, among them a cork tree and some Turkish oaks. It is remarkable that the size and number of the trees should be

alluded to in the inquisition of 1316. The landscape gardening displays so much skill that it is impossible to help the conjecture that it must be the work of "Capability Brown."

The Rev. Henry White, rector of Fyfield, has many notices of Ramridge House in his diary. He does not appear however to have appreciated its beauties :—

1780. December 18th.—Walked to Ramridge with Sir P.H.C., &c., p.m. A very large and expensive house, and too lofty for the country.

1780. July 22nd.—Rode to Ramridge vesp with Bessy, &c.: lime bloom, fine perfume.

1780. August 3rd.—Sir P.H.C., Mr. W. M. Metz, and Bessy rode to Ramridge vesp.

1780. December 4th.—Sent ye picture home to Ramridge.

1782. October 11th.—Dined at Ramridge with brother Benj.; house most elegantly furnished. Two most superb looking glasses in ye drawing room, said to have cost originally at Paris £500 each. Very dark walk home Messrs. Leversuch and Crookshanks and several ladies from London visiting Mr. Gauler.

1784. April 17th.—Dined at Ramridge with Mr. W., Mrs. Wallop and Miss Bailey, and Messrs. Chamberlain, Barlow, and Haynes. Great cutting down and grubbing up *sed quantum mutatus ab illo.*

Mr. Marsh, who took a forty years' lease of Ramridge in 1855, made a great alteration in the building. His initials, M.H.M., with those of his wife and three daughters, E.G.B.E., are in box edging on the terrace in front of the house. He was succeeded by Colonel Shaw-Storey, and in 1887 by Col. Harmar, J.P., the present occupier. The arms of Harmar are quarterly, or and sable on a bend engrailed gules, between two roses argent barbed and seeded proper, three lozenges erminois. Crest 'on a wreath of the colours in front of a cubit arm vested sable cuff or, in the hand two rose branches leaved and slipped vert, that on the dexter gules that on the sinister argent both barbed and seeded proper, a portcullis with chains or.

I have remarked before that I do not know how long Clanville was held as a separate Manor, but that by 1316 it had come into the same hands as Ramridge. We find it now, in my opinion, one of the most interesting and picturesque places in the north of Hampshire. A long street running nearly due north from Weyhill church continues through part of the parish of Chute Forest, forming the boundary between that parish and Tangley till it finally leaves the county, where it comes upon the Roman road between Winchester and Cirencester at Hampshire Gate. The gradient

increases all the way along. It is 300 feet above the sea at the point we have reckoned as its starting, and it reaches 600 at Hampshire Gate, although a spot very close to that in Conholt Park is 697 feet. This road is joined at Duck Street, close to the boundary of the parish and of the county, by another coming from Penton Grafton. The two ways making a sort of inverted V with the point to the north between Nutbane on the east, and Flinty, in Wiltshire, on the west. At this point is what yet remains of the village green, once more extensive but now partly taken into the gardens.

Clanville may be considered in many ways a typical village, and would yield materials for careful study of the village community. The age of the present street is proved by the size of the trees standing on either side of it. One immense chestnut is yet rearing its venerable head opposite Weyhill school, and another, nearly as large, was felled within my recollection. On the other side of the road, though nearer the extremity of the parish, are some very large trees opposite Clanville House.

Ramridge house stands in its park with unusually fine timber on the west of the road, and Clanville Lodge is on the east some way further down. The old name of this house was Blissmore Hall, and, as such, it is frequently mentioned in Mr. White's Diaries. It was to a great extent rebuilt by the late T. Faith, Esq.

Further north, on the right hand side, is Clanville House, a very interesting building of the early part of the eighteenth century. A brick in the garden wall is inscribed P.L. (Philip Lockton), 1793. This may indicate the date when the drawing room was added, but the front part is certainly much older. The dining room is particularly characteristic, and there are three other panelled rooms, and a very quaint staircase. Two enormous yew trees, one measuring 10 feet 4in. round the trunk, stood at the back, which must have been many centuries in growth, and a most effective avenue of limes, the average girth of which is 7 feet, is growing on the slope of the garden to the border of the grounds, and is so arranged that with the doors of the house set open a striking view is obtained, which however was finer still when the pollarded limes in the meadow in front extended to the top; at present only two remain. Clanville House was long the residence of the Lockton family, and is now occupied by

Montagu Edwards, Esq., to whom I am indebted for much valuable assistance.

A capital example of the formal style of gardening so very much in fashion in the seventeenth century, and which has never been altogether discontinued, is seen in the trimmed yew trees near the end of the village street. We find that the trees in Andover churchyard were kept trimmed in this fashion, as entries frequently occur in the old churchwardens' books recording payments for doing it, as for example :—

1703. To moneys paid for foleing and staking the trees in the churchyard ... ... ... ... 01 10 00
To moneys paid Chubb for trimming the yew tree 00 00 06

The signboard of the Three Horse Shoes inn is an interesting specimen of iron work.

A very ancient house is still standing on the east side of the road. A modern addition, as large as the original part yet existing, very much conceals its character. It is built of wattle and daub, with small projecting oriel windows, and the old chimney stands but a very little way out of the thatch. Some of the rooms are panelled. I regret to say I have been as yet unable to investigate it, as I hope to do more fully; but so far as I am able to judge from the imperfect view I could obtain I have no hesitation in assigning its erection at the latest to the commencement of the fifteenth century.

Much valuable information about the parish, illustrating what has been said, and what still remains to be told, will be found in an Act of Parliament, 52 Geo. III., 1812, for the sight of which I am indebted to M. Edwards, Esq. I quote the preamble entire.

A Bill for inclosing lands in the parish of *Wey*, otherwise *Weyhill*, within the manor of *Ramridge*, in the county of *Southampton*, and in the hamlet or township of *Appleshaw*, in the said county (Royal Assent 20 June, 1812).

Whereas there are within the hamlets or townships of *Penton Grafton*, *Clanville*, and *Nutbean*, and within the said parish of *Wey*, otherwise *Weyhill*, in the county of *Southampton*, several open and common fields, pasture, down, and waste lands, containing in the whole, by estimation, 680 acres or thereabouts, and divers ancient inclosures; and whereas there are within the said hamlet or township of *Appleshaw* several open and common fields, pasture, and waste land, containing in the whole by estimation 120 acres or thereabouts, and divers ancient inclosures; and whereas the two chaplains and thirteen poor men of *Ewelm* almshouse in *Ewelm* in the county of Oxford are Lords of the said Manor of *Ramridge*, comprising therein the whole of the said hamlets or townships of *Penton Grafton*, *Clanville*, and *Nutbean*, and

the said parish of *Wey*, otherwise *Weyhill* aforesaid, and they the said two chaplains and thirteen poor men and *John Bellenden Ker* and *Henry Gawler, Esq.*, their lessees for lives, are entitled to the right of soil of and in the commons of waste land within the said manor, except certain parts thereof to which the said two chaplains and thirteen poor men and *Charles Heath, Thomas Heath*, and *William Hawkins Heath*, claiming under them for lives, are entitled as hereinafter mentioned; and whereas the said two chaplains and thirteen poor men as Lords of the said Manor of *Ramridge* and the said *Charles Heath, Thomas Heath*, and *William Hawkins Heath*, claiming under them for lives, are entitled to the right of soil of and in the Common Down called *Weyhill Down*, otherwise the *Hospital Down*, in the said parish of *Wey*, otherwise *Weyhill;* and whereas a certain ancient fair called *Weyhill Fair* hath been annually held on the said down called *Weyhill Down*, otherwise the *Hospital Down*, and also on a certain piece of glebe land adjoining the aforesaid down, on which piece of glebe land sheep usually are, and have been penned for sale at the said fair, and also on a certain piece of land called *Blissmore*, otherwise *Blissmore Hall Acre*, on which hops usually are and have been stored for sale at the said fair, and the said two chaplains and thirteen poor men, and the said *Charles Heath, Thomas Heath*, and *William Hawkins Heath*, claiming under them, are entitled to the profits of picage and stallage, and other profits on the said down at the said fair, and the Rector of the said parish of *Wey*, otherwise *Weyhill*, is entitled to the profits of penning sheep on the said glebe land at the time of and for the said fair, and the proprietors of the said piece of land called Blissmore, otherwise Blissmore Hall Acre, are entitled to the profits of stowing hops for sale on the said acre at the time of and for the said fair. And whereas the said two chaplains and thirteen poor men and their several lessees for lives and copyhold tenants, and the said *John Bellenden Ker* and *Henry Gawler* and divers other persons are seised of and interested in the residue of the lands, grounds, commons and waste lands, and of the said inclosed grounds within the said hamlet or townships of *Penton Grafton, Clanville*, and *Nutben*, and in the said parish of *Wey*, otherwise *Weyhill* aforesaid. And whereas *James Edwards, Esq.*, is Lord of the Manor of *Appleshaw*, and as such entitled to the right of soil in the commons and waste lands within the said hamlet or township of *Appleshaw*; and whereas the said *James Edwards, Thomas Bailey, William Horton*, the said two chaplains and thirteen poor men, and the said *John Bellenden Ker* and *Henry Gawler*, the lessees of the said two chaplains and thirteen poor men and divers other persons, are seised of or interested in the residue of the lands, grounds, commons, and waste lands lying in the said open and common fields, pastures and other commonable places and waste lands, and of the inclosed lands within the said hamlet or township of *Appleshaw*.

This extract will not only prove the main facts mentioned above about the manor, but it will enable us to trace the reasons for the locality of the separate grounds for sheep, hops, and other things brought for sale.

But there is one matter that does not on the face of it seem clear. This Act states that one hundred and twenty acres

"within the hamlet or township of Appleshaw" . . . . "and whereas *James Edwards, Esquire,* is Lord of the Manor of *Appleshaw,* and as such entitled to the right of soil in the commons and waste lands within the said hamlet or township of Appleshaw." It will come more properly within any description we are able to give of the parish of Appleshaw itself.

But it will perhaps save confusion to notice here that part of Mr. Edwards' property in the manor of Appleshaw, though not of large extent, lay within the boundaries of the parish of Weyhill, and that is the reason for it being mentioned in the Act just quoted. We must not look upon it as appurtenant to the manor of Ramridge, but "parcel" of the manor of Appleshaw and Reddenham.

It gives name, however, to a part of the parish bordering on Clanville, called Ragged Appleshaw, which may as well be spoken of now.

Appleshaw is not a word needing very much explanation, although it is an instance of the way in which place-names elucidate our history. In no single instance throughout the charters do we meet with a name implying the existence of any kind of pine or fir, and this curiously corroborates the assertion of Cæsar that there was no fir in Britain. The names of fruit trees are also very rare, with the exception of the apple tree, and even this appears chiefly in Celtic names —*Taylor's Words and Places.* The first part of the name of the parish then is easily understood. *Shaw* means a wood or shady place, and, like the kindred words *holt, lea, hill,* and *mere,* proves that the greater part of the country was nothing but woodland. *Shaw,* however, must not be confounded with *haw,* which means a place where trees had been hewn. We may render *shaw* (an Anglo-Saxon word) "a shady place in a wood," and perhaps apple orchard would not badly represent the meaning to us. But here we have a prefix *ragged,* which has given rise to some misinterpretation. The explanation is, however, at once easy and pleasant. Ragged is a term applied to fruit trees when they have a good crop. Thus, they say "How full of fruit that tree is, it's as ragged as it can hing" —*Halliwell.* We may thus safely conclude that this part of the parish had been renowned for its good apple crops from pre-historic times.

From *Vancouver's Agriculture of Hampshire* drawn up for the *Board of Agriculture and Internal Improvement,* 1810, it

appears that "Penton Grafton contained 48 inhabited houses, with a population of 345. The total sum raised for all parochial purposes was £327 14s. 3d., of which £304 8s. 6d. was expended on account of the poor. The poor rate was four shillings in the £." A note adds: "There is no workhouse in this parish, but 25 houses are found by the parish for the resident poor."

The tythingman's returns and presentments to the Court Leet, which existed at Andover for a vast number of years, mention the butts, the stocks, and the pound. A sample entry will be sufficient :—

1568. Penton Grafton. Item, that the butts for the archers and the stocks for the punishment of malefactors are in default, and it belongs to the inhabitants there to repair them. The butts and stocks are to be sufficiently repaired before the feast of the Anunciation of Blessed Mary next ensuing, under a penalty of vjs. and viijd.

1693. Oct. 5. Penton Grafton. Wee present the pound to be in default, and to be amended in 20 days upon penalty of ... 1 0 0

Wee present the stockes, formerly presented and not amended, to be done in 20 days upon the penalty of ... ... ... ... 0 5 0

Wee presentt the way between Peter Noyes and the stocks to bee mended by the 12th ffebruary next on the penalty of ... 0 5 0

In the same year the return of the "resiants" for Penton Grafton was as follows :—

William Drake Esqr
Richard Whitehead Gent
Robert Tarrant
William Mills
John Noyes
Charles Bendall
Nathaniell Tarrant
Thomas Tarrant
Thomas Knowles
Richard Stevence
Samuell Tarrant
John Gale
Hugh Gale
Peter Bendall
John Barnes senr
Peter Gale
Robert Fuller
Hugh Green
John Hurst
John Guyatt
William Browne senr
William Browne junr

Thomas Thurstin
Josiah Tarrant
Richard Stevence
Isaack Stevence
Thomas Noyes

Richard More
Thomas Steventon
Robert Tarrant junr
William Fuller
William Hayes
John Helliar
Robert Crosse
Robert Barnes
William Limpas
Thomas Wale
William Greene

For Jewrymen
Anthony Biley
Peter Noyes
Thomas Dalby

Whilst we have Records of this character before us it will

be well to quote the following, which may possibly form the subject of further comments later on :—

1575, Sep. 19, Penton Grafton. Peter Moyse has not amended a certain footway leading from Andever to the Common called "le Pyke" and "le heathe" whereby the leiges of our Lady the Queen who cannot freely go and return by that way to the Common are inconvenienced therefore he is fined xijs. iiijd.

The following passage from—

A complete system of geography of the known world comprehending the History of the Universe, both Antient and Modern, and the most material Revolutions and changes that have happen'd in it, either by Conquest or Treaties,

Published under the name of Herman Moll, London 1744, is too good to be lost. Speaking of Andover—

We can't leave it without mentioning a village on the west of it at the beginning of the open Down called *Salisbury Plain*. Its name is *Weyhill* where is only a desolate church, on a rising ground, with hardly a house about it, yet 'tis of Note for a fair reckoned one of the biggest in *England* for Hops, Cheese, and several other Commodities and for sheep there is none so big especially of the *Dorsetshire* Ewes for store sheep which the farmers come or send for to this fair not only from the counties of *Berks*, *Oxford*, *Bucks*, *Bedford*, and *Hertford*, but from *Middlesex*, *Kent*, *Surrey*, and *Sussex*. The hops are brought hither from the three counties last mentioned, and the cheese from *Wiltshire*, *Gloucestershire*, and *Somersetshire*.

Among the traditions of the fair which are worth preserving is the curious old practice which obtained at the various inns in the village of "Horning the Colts." Anyone who had not attended the fair before, either in the hop market or otherwise, was deemed a "colt," and was initiated or "made free" by the following rite, which seems to have come down from very early date :—

The new hand was seated in a chair amidst the regular frequenters of the house, and on his head was placed a hat adorned with two horns, between which was fixed a "cup." The officiant stood before him and sang the following strain, the rest all joining in the chorus, which was repeated several times :—

So swift runs the hare, so cunning runs the fox,
Why shouldn't this young heifer grow up to be an ox,
And drink with his daddy with a large pair of horns.
*Chorus*—With a large pair of horns.

The head covering was then handed down so that the novice could drink the ale from the cup, which held about half-a-pint. The ceremony concluded by the company

consuming half-a-gallon of beer which was paid for by the newly initiated.

The horns which were kept for the purpose at the "Star" have unfortunately been mislaid owing to a change of landlord. They were described to me as ram's-horns gilded at the tips, and the head piece carved to resemble some animal's head, "like a dog with an open mouth, which was painted red inside."

But those which up to a few years ago existed at the "Bell" were, I gather from the description I have had, probably the horns of a fallow-deer. The head piece in this case was of wood shaped like a billy cock hat, "with the band and all" painted green, and on a metal plate in front it bore the inscription "Better times coming." The cup was of wood, varnished, in shape like a rummer or drinking glass with a stem, and it was tied to the horns by a blue ribbon. Unfortunately these "very old fashioned things," having become rotten with time and use, were consigned to the copper fire about the close of the last decade, the horns themselves proving very hard to burn.

I am indebted for the words of this mysterious ceremonial to Mr. Farmer, the genial landlord of the Red Lion at Clanville, as delightfully quaint an old country inn as a tourist in search of the picturesque would easily find, with a sign-board in front which is not to be forgotten. To Mr. Seaman, landlord of the Star, and to Mrs. Bendell, as well as to Miss Sindell, of the Bell Inn, I owe warm acknowledgments for the great pains they kindly took to enable me to preserve an account of this interesting survival.

It may be well to note for the sake of comparison that a somewhat similar custom was still observed at Highgate in the north of London, after the year 1800.

> Some of the public-houses in Highgate have a large pair of horns placed over the sign, and when any of the country people stop for refreshment, a pair of large horns fixed to the end of a staff, is brought to them, and they are pressed to be sworn. If they consent a kind of burlesque oath is administered that they will never eat brown bread when they can get white, and abundance of other things of the same kind, which they repeat after the person who brings the horns, being allowed, however, to add to each article the words "Except I like the other better." *Ambulator London* 1800.

I am not sure that the Weyhill "horning" can be truly said to have become obsolete, for I remember a former rector, the Rev. W. H. Simcox, going through the ceremony.

Whether any indications may be traced of the origin or antiquity of this custom I will not venture to say, but I am inclined to regard it as going back to remote date, and I do not think it at all hopeless that further information may be gleaned. I hope to be able to recur to the most interesting inns of the parish later on.

We shall probably never dissociate the name of the parish of Penton Grafton from Weyhill Fair, which, as has been remarked, has absorbed all other geographical distinctions; for it is the fair that has made the hill to be the most remembered and noteworthy spot, and the fair that has always held the paramount interest. There is no need of recalling to those who live within reach the precise locality of the "Fair Ground." We can recognise it under the adopted name of Weydon Priors in Mr. Hardy's capital story of "The Mayor of Casterbridge." But it is important to notice that the ground we see so annually teeming with life and animation is partly glebe and partly land "parcel of the manor of Ramridge," and the strip we call the Hop Rows, for we shall have to see hereafter that it was the subject of a long and tedious lawsuit to determine whether this precise spot was obliged to be the place where the fair must be held, or whether it might be kept in another selected site in the neighbourhood. That its fame made it familiar over all Southern England may not unfairly be deduced from the passage already quoted from the "Vision of Piers Plowman," and it will help us very materially to understand the past history of the valley if we look into the social want which thus met its supply in our midst through the means of this great fair.

Professor Thorold Rogers, in his "Six Centuries of Work and Wages," has much that will help us to sound conclusions on the subject. He says:—

> Our forefathers in their market regulations were always anxious to ensure what I may call natural cheapness. They did not attempt to fix the price of articles, the plenty or the scarcity of which depended on the abundance or the dearth of the seasons, for the assize of bread and ale contemplated the extremes of either cheapness or dearness. But they strove to prevent the artificial enhancement of price. Hence the offences of forestalling, that is the purchase of corn on the road to the market, and of regrating, *i.e.*, the re-sale of corn in the same market at an increased price.
>
> The essence of mediæval trade was the bargain. It was no doubt as long and as anxiously discussed as it now is in an Eastern town. The

importance of it when hands were struck on it was indicated by the gift of the luck penny—God's silver as it was called—the earnest or pledge of the contract.

This grasp of hands after a bargain is concluded is still well known, and the custom of *God's Silver* survives in the Queen's shilling accepted by recruits.

As important, however, as markets in the economy of mediæval society were fairs. It is not easy to understand their origin, but there is one particular which Andover especially illustrates, as indeed it does the whole history of trade through the Middle Ages. The great fact that all trade was under the control of the Guild Merchant must not of course be lost sight of. In the ordinances of the gild written in the fourteenth century, in what is known as "The Oak Book" at Southampton, it is enacted :—

> And no one shall buy anything in the town of Southampton to sell again in the same town unless he be of the Gild Merchant, or of the franchise, and if anyone does it and is found guilty all that he has thus bought shall be forfeited to the King . . . . And no one except a gildsman shall buy honey, suet, salt, herring, nor any kind of oil, nor mill stones, nor fresh leather, nor any kind of fresh skins, nor keep a wine tavern, nor sell cloth by retail, except on market and fair day; nor keep more than five quarters of corn in his granary to sell by retail if he is not a gildsman, and if anyone shall do it and be found guilty all shall be forfeited to the King.

These two regulations that non-gildsmen could not buy certain articles, nor sell by retail, were, so long as the Gild Merchants retained power of control, suspended during the fair, and the feebler grasp of the Companies which succeeded (in this neighbourhood in 1599) does not appear to have interfered with the unfettered trading there.

Having seen then how amidst the regulations affecting trade during the Middle Ages the free trading of the fair was still possible, we want next to observe why the fair was so essential, as it unquestionably became, at a very early date.

The trader did not exist in the villages. In most villages he hardly existed in the beginning of the present century. Professor Thorold Rogers says that in his native village the first shop was opened for general trade about 60 years ago (he writes in 1889), and for many a year afterwards the wants of the villagers were supplied by packmen and pedlars, or, in the case of the more opulent, by carts, which came periodically from the nearest town for orders. In the thirteenth century all but the largest towns were less than

many modern villages. Except in London it was not possible to get foreign produce, other than wine, at a reasonable rate, and the purchaser of such produce obtained it more cheaply at the great fairs than he did in London itself.

Again, there were products sold in most towns which could be purchased in the greatest variety and at the lowest rates at the great fairs. The landowner gained the best market for his wool at the mart to which traders thronged from all parts of the world But he had to lay in his own stock, either by exchange for his produce, or with his own money. For 40 days he lived on fish; here he could buy herrings and salt fish at the lowest prices. He needed to put up his own winter store in the powdering tub, and he purchased salt at half the rate which the country dealer demanded, and of much better quality. He wanted sheep medicines, verdigris and copperas, or, best of all, tar, and he could buy it by the barrel at half the retail price. Cloth and leather, linen and fur, kitchen vessels of iron or brass—I am writing of what I find was actually bought—could be obtained here at reasonable or natural prices. Nothing was too cumbersome or too costly for a mediæval fair, for if the dealer did not find customers here he could find them nowhere else. It was frequented by noble and serf, by churchman and soldier, by merchant or trader and peasant, by monk and craftsmen.

I am drawing no imaginative picture, 60 years ago. A visit to an autumn fair for the sake of laying in winter supplies was part of the ordinary life of a small country gentleman or a wealthy yeoman. Here he got bales of West of England cloth for his household, hides and uppers for shoes and boots, cheese in districts where dairy farming was not practised, and a host of conveniences and rare luxuries. Some of Wedgwood's finest pottery was regularly sold over Southern England at village fairs, and in the old days of differential and sumptuary duties, upright and pious men, who would have defrauded no man consciously, thought it no harm if, in the inner recess of the booth, they bargained for a keg of French brandy or a case of Hollands, or a roll of ribbon, or a yard of lace. So a century and a half before, or over two centuries, books, which would have hardly found a sale by any modern means, were circulated even when they were unlicensed.

Ten or twelve generations ago these fairs were a necessity, three or four, a great convenience, with which the country could ill dispense. At present the importance which they once possessed has passed away, and their significance is forgotten. There is no part of English social life which has been so totally altered by improved means of communication as trade, especially trade in the country. Two generations ago pedlars carried tea about in packs on their shoulders. At the present time a country grocer can one evening bid his agent by letter free a chest of tea from bond, and the next day he can have it in stock. Goods can be carried at one-tenth the cost, time, and risk from the centres of trade to distant villages. Migratory trade has therefore become superfluous and obsolete, and the great marts of the Plantagenets, of the Tudors, of the Stewarts, and of the early reigns of the present Royal Family, have degenerated into scenes of coarse amusement, and after having been granted and protected as the highest and

most necessary franchises have been tolerated for the sake of their traditions, and are now being generally suppressed.

A most interesting and charming account of the great fair at St. Giles at Winchester is given in Dean Kitchin's "Cathedral Records," to which the reader who wishes to pursue the subject is referred. I venture to quote some passages from it because they show the similarity between these two great fairs, and illustrate some features in the arrangement of the fair ground which still survives at Weyhill.

Of Winchester the Dean says :—

The fair itself was a kind of wooden town, which sprung up at the end of August on the brow of St. Giles' Hill. As the gathering grew in popularity this town grew with it until it appears to have covered the whole open space on the hill top and to have descended the steep slope towards the East gate of the city. We learn from one document (*i.e.*, *the Charter of Edward III.*) that the whole space occupied by it was surrounded by a palisading with only one gate, or at most two, pierced in it, one towards the country and one towards the town. This palisade was not merely a defence against thieving at night, but it hindered traders from bringing their goods into the market without paying toll, the temptation to such smuggling being so strong that men sometimes digged through the wall and so evaded the gates. Inside this great fence the fair was laid out in streets, which were named from the commodities sold in them. These were assigned to Flemmings, to men of Caen, of Limoges, of Bristol, of Cornwall, to artificers such as Goldsmiths and others. There was also a Drapery, a Pottery, a Spicery, in which wares of different kinds were exposed for sale, and also a place for the sale of birds and beasts. St. Swithun's drove a fine trade in wine and spiceries, and other religious houses in the neighbourhood had their stalls, which they held under the Bishop, paying rent for them year by year. The Bishop himself appears not to have been above a little trading. . . . . The names of the streets indicate clearly enough that it was a great place for foreign as well as English trades, among them were those mysterious merchants from foreign parts called "Dynamitters," who sold brazen vessels and pots, and were bound by ancient custom to present to the Justiciaries of the Pavilion and to the Treasurer at Wolvesey four brazen basins and ewers. . . . . The tolls taken at the gates of the fair were a considerable burden on the traders and buyers, and were levied on the goods of Englishmen and foreigners alike. A load of firewood or charcoal was charged a halfpenny (perhaps sixpence or eightpence of our money), a cartful of hay twice as much, a cartload of corn twice as much (say from two to three shillings), a woolpack fivepence, a pack of mercers wares twopence, for a falcon sold, or a ferret, an ape, or a bear, fourpence (say from four to five shillings), and so on through the list.

One more charming extract will enable us to contrast (or compare) the present of the two great Hampshire fairs.

The improvement in communications had also no little effect in pulling down the fair when people found they could get from place to place, buy what they wanted from hand to mouth instead of purchasing once a year, and packing away their goods in store rooms, in which they ran all the risks of rats and mice, of damp and staleness. They soon ceased to arrange their commissariat by the fair, and learned to deal for what they needed with the shopman in the town. Then by degrees as the City grew stronger and the fair weaker, it slid down St. Giles Hill towards the gates, until at last it entered into the town, and abandoning the old site altogether camped for a day or two in the broad High Street, where still its noisy ghost holds revel once a year,

In common with other fairs a distinctive feature at Weyhill was the "Court of Pie Poudre," which was held in a specially erected tent in late times by the officers of the Corporation of Andover. I am almost certain that the late Mr. C. Herbert, of Eastanton, has told me he has sat on it.

The Court of Pie Poudre. *Curia pedis pulverisati* is a court held in fairs to do justice to buyers and sellers, and for redress of disorders committed in them. It is so called because they are most usual in summer when the suitors to the court have *dusty feet*, and from the expedition in hearing causes proper thereto before the dust goes off the feet of the plaintiffs and defendants. It is a court of record, incident to every fair, and to be held only during the time that the fair is kept. *See Statute 17, Edward IV., c. 2.*

I have hitherto only found two instances of a roll of the Court of Pie Poudre among the muniments of Andover actually so described. One is of the fifteenth of Elizabeth, 1572, the other is of the twenty-first of Elizabeth, 1578.

The former is headed (in Latin)—

| | |
|---|---|
| Weyhill | Court held at Wayhill the last day but one in September in the xvth year of the Queen aforesaid. John Bene plaintiff against Thomas Rooke, William Gormell plaintiff against Henry Skeate, Henry Tumks clerk plaintiff against—Smyth, Jes Hugo plaintiff against Emele Vrell. |
| let a summons be issued | Edmunde Morell plaintiff against Richard Jones on a plea of debt. |
| let a summons be issued | Robert Vell plaintiff against Richard Gyatt on a plea. |
| Up Clatford | The tithing man there, &c., sworn comes and presents all well. |
| Ann Abbatis | The tithing man there, &c., comes and presents all well. |
| Sarston and Tudworth | The tithing man there comes and presents all well. |
| Amport | The tithing man there comes and presents all well. |

| | |
|---|---|
| let a summons be issued | po lo Ed Abbatt. |
| | John Alkyuse plaintiff against Robert Holmes on a plea of debt. |
| Cholerton and Appleshaw | The tithing man there comes and presents all well. |
| Fifelde | The tithing man there comes and presents all well. |
| Penton Grafton | The tithing man there comes and presents all well. |
| Foxcotte | The tithing man there comes and presents all well. |
| Knights Enham | The tithing man there comes and presents all well. |
| Hatherden Manor | The tithing man there makes default . . . . for the manor. |

The writing of this roll is horribly bad; indeed it is hardly readable. It will be noticed that the form of record is very similar to that of the ordinary view of Frank Pledge; but the attendance is from other places beside the regular tithings.

The other roll is here given translated:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Weyhill | A court of pie poudre held there the twenty-ninth day of September in the twenty-first year of the reign of the Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England France and England defender of the faith, &c.<br>In the time of Robert Noyse and Robert Hibbard Bailiffs of Andover. |
| Vp Clatford | William Ratne tithing man there comes with Richd Toggys presents all well. |
| Abbotts Ann | William Dalby tithing man there comes with William Hurst presents all well. |
| Sarson and Tidworth | John Batt tithing man there. |
| Grateley | Michael Skete tithing man there comes with Le Rewae Will Croft and Willin Fulan and Hugh Hopkins and presents that a wether sheep of white colour came astray on the feast of Saint James last past, and beyond that all is well. |
| Amport | Richard Myller tithing man there makes default therefore he is in mercy xxd. |
| Choldwarton & Appleshaw | William Munday the tithing man there makes default therefore he is in mercy xxd. |
| Kimpton and Littleton | The tithing man default therefore he is in mercy xxd. |
| Fifield | Thomas James the tithing man there come with Willm Cook and Thomas Horen sworn and presents all well. |
| Penton Grafton | John Young the tithing man there came with David Buckland, sworn and presents that a (?) sparrow hawk of a (?) colour came astray on the xxvijth of September last past and beyond that he presents all well. |
| Foscott | John Noyse the tithing man there comes with John Munday and Thomas Page, sworn presents all well. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Knights Enham | Edward Blake the tithing man there presents that a white lamb came astray on the last day of this instant month of September and remains in his keeping and further that all is well. |
| | William Goodyear plaintiff against Thomas Twyne gentleman on a plea of taking away and unjustly detaining his cattle. |
| | Antony Peterson plaintiff against Henry Tririe in his own person on a plea of trespass. |
| It was attached therefore next court | William Broker plaintiff against William Sper on a plea of debt 11 quarters of barley value xvis. |

The part the fair supplied in the domestic economy is well illustrated by entries in the diary of the Rev. H. White, rector of Fyfield. I give extracts from a paper in Hampshire Notes and Queries, Vol. VII., p. 88. It was the custom of this worthy clergyman, who was a brother of Gilbert White, of Selborne, to buy a stock of cheese at Andover Fair and replenish it at Weyhill Fair, and every cheese that was cut is duly entered in the diary, a cheese as a rule lasting his household about four days. Once however it did not last so long. The 28th of the stock was cut on March 1st, 1782, and on March 2nd we read "Cheese cut 29th, that yesterday being very strong." The following entry will explain the designation "Fives," "Sixes," &c., meaning that number to the hundredweight.

1781. October 10th. Fair at Weyhill.

Cheese bought of Mr. Stone.

| | cwt. |
|---|---|
| Common cheese | 7 Sixes. |
| Do. | 1 Fives. |
| Do. | 1 Sevens. |
| 54 Cheeses Total | 9 at 33s. |
| at the same time | 2 Mr. Powlett. |
| | 1 Mr. Cane. |

No truckles or sages.

11th. Cheese fair very full and said to be sinking in price.

This was the second supply in that year, for at Andover Fair on the 11th May the purchase had been

Cheese bt. of R. Stone, 61 in No.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Common cheeses at | | |
| 4 cwt. of Fives | 33s. per cwt. | |
| 3 cwt. of Sixes | 14 | 17 0 |
| 2 cwt. of Sevens | | |
| — | | |
| 9 cwt. | | |

And 1 cwt. 8 lbs. of truckles No. 7 and Sages No. 2 at 46/9, £2 6s. 8d.

I have no distinct recollection of ever tasting a Hampshire cheese, or at least one made near here; but the late Mr. C. Herbert of Eastanton, whose memory went back well nigh three score years and ten, has often told me that in his younger days if a wooden plough wanted tightening up while work was going on, the readiest plan was the usual one to cut a wedge from the cheese in the dinner bag and hammer it in.

The following are Mr. White's remarks on Weyhill Fair in 1783 :—

October 11th. Hops, none from Selborne, and very few from that district; few from Farnham, and a very thin shew on ye Hill, tho some Kentish and some old hops were bot. Best price £11 per cwt. Bought none. Weyhill being the worst market when they are dear, the best when they are cheap.

The following trade announcement, copied from a hand-bill kindly lent me by Montagu Edwards, Esq., is interesting :

*Weyhill Fair.*

J. Gills
From Salisbury

Respectfully informs the Public, that the following articles will be exposed for sale, at his standing, during the Fair :—

| | £ | s. | d. | | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mens close bodied Coats, from ... ... | 0 | 18 | 0 | to | 2 | 10 | 0 |
| Cloth Surtouts ... ... ... .. ... | 1 | 0 | 0 | to | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Ladies Great Coats ... ... ... ... | 1 | 0 | 0 | to | 1 | 8 | 0 |
| Fine Beaver Surtouts ... ... ... ... | 0 | 18 | 0 | to | 1 | 8 | 0 |
| Fine Hair Shag Waistcoats ... ... ... | 0 | 13 | 0 | to | 0 | 17 | 0 |
| Velveret Waistcoats ... ... ... ... | 0 | 12 | 0 | to | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Very Fine Flannel under Waistcoats faced with Sattin ... ... ... ... | 0 | 4 | 6 | to | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Corderoy Breeches ... ... ... ... | 0 | 10 | 6 | to | 0 | 15 | 6 |
| Boys 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th Size Fustian Suits ... | 0 | 13 | 0 | to | 0 | 16 | 0 |

*With every other Article in the Cloathing Branch proportionately Cheap.*

Such persons that prefer bespeaking any of the above Articles, may be measured, and choose from a variety of Patterns. The great Encouragement he has met with for the last Twenty years, has enabled him to purchase every Article from the first manufactories in England.

*** Carters' and Shepherds' Cloaths, round Frocks, and double milled Great Coats, as usual.

Salisbury: Printed by Collins and Johnson 1784.

It is a necessary consequence of the frailty of man's nature that cases for the attention of the justices apart from the Pie Poudre Court should from time to time arise. How far the

incident at the commencement of Mr. Hardy's tale, "The Mayor of Casterbridge," represents any feature of the life at the fair I cannot say, but here are some notes from among the indictments in the muniment chest of the Corporation, which are not so unlike modern experience.

John Daniell late of Portsmouth labourer is a person of bad repute and on 30 Sep. (1699) at Weyhill obteyned and took away from Richard Wallis by a certain deceptive game called cuppes and balls ten shillings.

Caleb Clarke of London victualler, Benjamin Arnold of Southwark, and William Stevens of London gent, and John Briant of the city of Norwich, clothworker are persons of ill repute, and on 28 September 1697. at Weyhill stole certain pieces of gold called guineas from Richard Mowland by a certain deceptive game with cards.

Benjamin Arnold } pleaded separately
and John Briant } not guilty.

and pray travesty at the next session of the peace. Witness—Richard Mowland sworn

as to Benjamin Arnold and John Briant—True
as to Caleb Clark and William Stevens—We do not know

I have now to speak of the lawsuits which have been contested about Weyhill Fair, and I must confess the task is a very formidable one indeed. I have often mentioned how carefully the town of Andover has preserved the records of its transactions, and, perhaps, there is no part of its history where they are so full and numerous as about this long protracted struggle. And this difficulty presents itself. To print the whole of the documents is out of the question, and yet they contain information of the greatest interest, and they ought to be printed, not only to perpetuate that information but to render it accessible. It is not too much to say that they have almost certainly never been read since they were tied up in bundles as they were done with, and that it is in the last degree improbable that one in a thousand of the present or future inhabitants of Andover ever will read them. As manuscript documents scarce any of the town's archives are likely to be known, though were they printed, some, perhaps many, would learn their value.

I shall give as copious extracts as I can, even at the risk of being tedious, because I feel so strongly that it is a duty the present owes to the future to get as many records as possible into print; but the great bulk must, I fear, be left, although I cannot refrain from saying that it would be a very welcome task to me to prepare them for the Press if any desire were evinced for having them in type.

The bulkiest bundles of papers are the "depositions," and what follows will prove how much there must be in them of local interest. The witness of the oldest people, and those most likely to be well-informed about this part of the country, is set down as to what they knew or could remember. As an example the first one I looked at was the sworn recollection of an old gentleman of "four score years and ten," and as it was taken in 1692 it will be seen at a glance that it gives a personal reminiscence of the neighbourhood in the reign of Charles the First.

In order to really ascertain the matter in dispute we must go back to the year 1599, when the charter was given to the town which revolutionised its constitution, although most of the ancient institutions were preserved in their old form. The fact must be grasped that although little difference was made beyond substitution of one bailiff for two, and converting the "forward men" into burgesses, yet the intended effect was to bring about a constitutional fresh start, and this was not effected without some feeling being exhibited, as is shown by the expression made use of in this charter of Queen Elizabeth:—

And whereas the aforesaid good men and inhabitants of our borough and town peaceably held and enjoyed divers other jurisdictions, etc., by the letters patent of divers of our progenitors, made as of prescription and use from time whereof the memory of man is not to the contrary. And whereas also by the insinuation of divers of the men and inhabitants of our said borough and town of Andever, We have been informed that divers disputes, questions, and ambiguities have lately been moved and arisen, and it is likely will daily more and more arise, as well concerning the validity and force of the aforesaid letters patent, by reason of the aforesaid variety of the names and incorporations aforesaid, and by reason of divers other defects in the said letters patent as concerning the validity and force of the prescriptions and use aforesaid, whereby many and grievous and inconvenient things have frequently arisen and happened, not only to the men and inhabitants of our borough and town aforesaid, but also to many other of our faithful subjects with them, bargaining and contracting, and thereupon the same men or inhabitants have humbly besought us that we, for the avoiding of strifes and controversies which on that occasion may hereafter happen, would vouchsafe to make, reduce, and create the same men and inhabitants into one certain definite and undoubted body, corporate and politic. We therefore, desiring that such strifes, ambiguities, and inconveniences may be hereafter entirely done away, and considering that the borough and town of Andever is an ancient and populous town and a thoroughfare throughout our whole kingdom of England in the western parts, and willing that hereafter a certain and undoubted mode in the same borough and town of in and upon the keeping of our peace

. . . And further . . . we grant to the bailiff, good men and burgesses that they may have a market to be held every week in the said borough and town, to wit, every Saturday, and four fairs to be there holden and kept, to wit, one fair to be holden yearly at Weyhill within the Foreign Hundred aforesaid on the day before the Feast of S. Michael, and on the day of the Feast of S. Michael, and on the day next after the Feast of S. Michael the Archangel. Another fair to be holden within the borough or town aforesaid on the day before the Feast of S. Leonard, on the day of the Feast of S. Leonard, and on the day next after the Feast of S. Leonard. And another fair to be holden within the borough or town aforesaid yearly on Thursday and Friday in the third week of Lent, and another fair to be holden there yearly on the day before the Feast of SS. Philip and James, together with a Court of Pie Pouder during the times of the said fairs, together with stallage, piccage, fines, amerciaments, and all other profits, comodities, and emoluments whatsoever of such markets, fairs, and Courts of Pie Pouder issuing, happening, arising, and contingent, and with all the liberties and free customs to such market and fairs appurtaining and belonging.

This Charter (which is still in force) was accepted as the working regulation of the town, and the title to the fairs and markets, &c., until 1674.

On the 26th July in that year we find what appears to be the first record preserved of the litigation that proved to be so tedious and lingering.

But before that there was evidently a movement towards constitutional changes. The first indication is on 9th August, 1671. *Liber C. p. 8.*

Ordered that the Charter be renewed, and that the Ld. Marquess of Winchester be High Steward of Andover. To make it a Mayor Town, and instead of Approved men and Burgesses to make Aldermen and Burgesses as before to gaine a markett for Tuesday for sheep and beasts and one faire about the last of August. Lres to Ld. Marquiss and Sir H. Lucy concerning it.

*The references given below are to the calendar of the Andover documents which I am compiling. When it does not seem essential to give a document at full length I have only transcribed the digest of it from this calendar.*

F. 26 1674 Mercurii Vicesimo Sexto die Julii Anno Regni Caroli Secundi Regis Vicesimo Sexto Inter Magistrum Didasculum tredecem Pauperos Homines Hospitii de Ewelme in Ewelme in Comitatu Oxon. Willm's Drake Armiger et Constantia uxor ejus. Henrie' Whithead and Will'm Goddard Ar' quer Ballivi probi Homines and Burgi de Andover in Com' South'ton.' Walterum Robinson Petrum Blake and John Spentey defts.

Upon opening of the matter this present day unto the Right Honble the Lord Keeper of the Greate Seale of England by Mr. Serjeant

Maynard Sr John Churchill Mr. Kerk and Mr. Thomas of counsell for the plaintiffs in the presence of Mr. Shuter and others of Councell for the defendants. Itt was alleadged that the said Master Schoolmaster and thirteen poor men of Ewelme Almeshouse were seized of the inheritance of the Manor farme and demeasnes of Rambridge in the County of Southampton. And that upon the Downes and feilds parcel of the said mannor att or on Weyhill a greate parte of the faire called Weyhill faire hath been tyme out of mind yearly held on the twenty eighth twenty ninth and thirtieth dayes of September and that the dutyes for Pickage and Stallage and placing of Coopes Penns Booths Standings and the like hath been constantly paid and answered to the Owner of the said Manor farmes and demeasnes of Ramridge or unto their Leasees respectively of the farme and demeasnes of the said Manor and that Wm. Noyse the father and William the son and Thos. Drake Esqr father of the plaintiff William Drake and the said William Drake under his trustees the plaintiffs Whitehead and Goddard as successive Leasees for lives of the said farm and demeasne of the said Manor of Rambridge have for many yeares last past enjoyed and received the said dutyes without any disturbance or interruption untill of late the defts under pretence of some grant of the said faire on the one and fortieth yeare of Queen Elizabeth endeavoured the last yeare to have made a disturbance in the said faire and have removed the same from the said Almeshouse. But upon the petition of the said severall Towns in Hampshire Wiltshire and Barkeshire to his Majestye in Councell for avoiding of tumults and preserving of the peace were comanded by his Majestye in Councell by order of the 19th of September last to permitt and suffer the next ensueing faire to be kept in the usual place att the same tyme and in the same manner as formerly it had been without any trouble or disturbance and which order was accordingly obeyed and that since the plaintiffs finding the same disposicion and intencon in the defendants to continue for the disturbance of the said faire have exhibited theire bill into this Honourable Court for to examine their witnesses in perpetuall memory touching their right unto the said dutyes and benefitt of the said faire and to obteine the injunction of this Honourable Court for the quietting of the poss'ion of the plaintiff Wm Drake in the said Downes and feilds att or on Weyhill aforesaid belonging to the said mannor farme and demeasnes of Rambridge and off and in such parte of the faire as hath been formerly held thereupon. And in the receiving of such dutyes as have been formerly paid unto the said farmers and Lessees of the said farme and demesnes without any disturbance by the defts or any of their agents or servants. Whereunto the defts have answered and doe say that they doe intend to keep the faire upon the plaintiff's land upon pretence of the Grant only making sattisfaccion for the damage done to the lands and commons thereupon. Whereupon and upon producing and reading of severall affadavitts shewing that for eighty years last past the said faire hath been held on the said plaintiff's land and such dutyes received by the leasees of the said farm and demeasnes as aforesaid. And that it would bee a great damage to the people of the neighbourhood of the saide faire and of the Countys of Southampton Berks Wilts Dorset and Somerset and other Countys as well as to the plaintiffs if any disturbance by reason of the defendants

pretence of Tytle should be made in the said faire being the greatest and most beneficial faire to the Westerne Countyes of England and that thereby great tumults in soe greate a faire and breaches of the peace might ensue. Itt was therefore prayed that this Court for the preservacon of the publique peace and to prevent such disturbance as might happen att soe great a meeting would grant an injunction for the quietting of the plaintiff Drake in the possession of the said Downes and fields att or on Weyhill aforesaid belonging unto the saide Manor farme and demeasnes off and in such parte of the saide faire as hath been formerly held and kept thereupon and in receiving such dutyes as have been formerly paid unto the farmers or Leasees of the said farme and demeasnes or their servants and agents without any disturbance whatsoever by the defts of any of their agents or servants or any clayming for from by or under them or any of them or any other persons whatsoever whereupon and upon debate of the matter and on full hearing of Councell for the defendants and what could be alleadged on their behalfes. This Court held it very reasonable and just and doth order the same, and that the defendants and all other persons whatsoever bee enjoyned accordingly. The plaintiffs councell further offerring to admitt of any entry and tresspasse as if made by the defts on the premisses in order to bring their Tytle if they have any unto a Legall determinacon by any tryall at the Common Law without delay.

I do not think there is any further reference to the matter in any of the documents preserved until we come to this subjoined entry in *Liber C.*, page 70. It has a sort of disheartened tone about it, which would almost lead to the hope that the end of the strife was in view.

2 April, 1680. It is this day ordered that the hurdles att Wayhill be disposed of to Mr. Wm Chuncetts or any other person that will give most for the same, and in case difference arises about the value then it be referred to skilfull workmen (on each side to be chosen) about settling the value thereof.

But two years afterwards the tone is quite different, although the record shows the working of some party feeling, which, happily, we cannot follow. The subjoined extract from *Liber C.*, page 78, will explain a great many documents, which need not all be given in full, but which will pretty nearly tell their own tale.

16 May, 1681. Whereas the King's Matie, upon the Corporacion addresse presented hath beene pleased to manifest great kindnesses to the Corporacon and since its happy restouracon hath already granted unto them a weekly markett for cattle and one faire to be held yeerly in the said town on the last of August, in the passing of the lrs. patent it was by some contrivance stopt at the Great Seale by the Earle of Shaftesbury when Ld. Chancellor, and whereas some of the immunities and the privileges graunted to the Corporacon are incertaine for the better ascerteyning and noting whereof, It is this day ordered that a

surrender be made of the present Charter of the Corporacon, and that a new Charter be procured and obteyned from His Matie. with this faire and markett, and such other new priviledges and advantages as may prove advantagious to the Corporacon, all which to be done at the charge of the Corporacon.

*Liber C., page* 79.

30 August, 1682. It is this day ordered by and with the consent of all and every of the aforesaid approved men and burgesses that for the reasons menconed in the order of the last comon Council, a surrender be made of the present Charter of the Corporacon, and that a new Charter be procured from his Matie. with the new faire and markett and such other priviledges and advantages as may be and prove advantagious to this Corporacon, and the same to be done at the charge of the Corporacon.

Protested against per one Peter Blake.

The next evidence we have is on page 83 (*Liber C.*)

1682. Whereas his now Matie. was lately pleased to renew the Charter of the Corporacon, and thereby to confirme and graunte unto the Bayliffe, approved men, and Burgesses of this Corporacon there antient and several other new priviledges. By reason whereof the said approved men and Burgesses are still obliged to give their attendance on the Bayliff for the tyme being in order to consult and advise touching the peace and welfare of the borough or towne of Andevre aforesaid in making such by-lawes as may conduce to the well governing and maynteyning thereof, which take vp a considerable part of the tyme of the said Bayliff, approved men and Burgess, yet there are diverse persons within this said towne that conspire together the imposing of inferior offices vpon many of the said approved men and Burgesses within the said towne and parish to them to obstruct and hinder there giving attendance on Mr. Bayliff for the purpose aforesaid. Its therefore this day ordered that noe approved men or burgess whatsoever belonging to this Corporation shall have any office imposed on him unless it be the office of a churchwarden within this parish, but shall from henceforth be freed and discharged from bearing any inferior office within the said town (except as aforesaid), any order heretofore made or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

1682, 10 Nov. (*Liber C., page* 84).

Whereas the Corporacon of Andevor hath of late beeu exposed to great expense and charge in renewing the Charter, and in defending of severall hearings before his Maties.' Councell touching the right of Weyhill faire and maynteyning the new priviledges graunted in and by the said Charter, and whereas the Corporacon hath already taken up at interest the some of one hundred and fifty pounds towards affraying thereof, which is not sufficient to discharge the same, as appears by severall accounts this day produced, and whereas divers suits are already commenced and more likely to arise touching tryinge the right of the said faire by reason whereof considerable somes of money wilbe expended, and whereas several of the approved men of the Corporacon have already deposited and lent several somes of money, and others are likewise desired and have promised to lend more towards carrying on

and defending of the said suits, whereupon it is this day ordered that all and every some and somes of money already deposited and lent or hereafter shalbe by any of the said approved men towards defending and trying the right of the faire shalbe reimbursed and paid them respectively in trust out of the profitts of the said faire in case the same be recouered or otherwise satisfyed out of the yearly rents belonging to the Corporacon, as the same shall accrew and become payable, any order to the contrary notwithstanding.

Next in order we come upon a series of petitions and counter petitions, of which two samples will suffice.

*F.* 1. 1682. Petition to the King's most Excellent Majestie from inhabitants of Rumsey and the parts adjacent in the county of Southampton.

That there hath always been for time immemorial a very great fayre yearly held and kept on the 28th, 29th, 30th dayes of Sept. at or upon Weyhill on ye lands belonging to the Hospitall of Ewelme and Rector of the parish of Weyhill aforesaid, which fayre the Corporation of Andover pretend they have power to remove by vertue of a Charter lately obteyned from your Matie., which if they should proceed to doe it would be a very great losse and damage to your petitioners and many others your Maties' loyall subjects, and alsoe may occasion the disturbance of the publicke peace, there being no place near so commodious and capable of receiving so great numbers of people as resort and cattle as are usually brought thither.

"Wherefore may it please your Matie in consideration of the premises graciously to order that the Clause in Andover Charter relating to the said fayre to be repealed and your Petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

75 signatures.

Other petitions are from

Fordingbridge (F. 2)
Winchester (F. 3)
Blandford, Dorset (E. 5)
Ductor Luff your
Majesties proffesor in
the University of Oxford
Master of the Hospital
of Ewelm (F. 4.)

The counter petitions were mostly worded in this way—

1682 (F. 6)—from Inhabitants of Towne and Burrough of Marleborough in the County of Wiltes being within twelve miles (or thereabouts) of Wayhill having been informed that severall remote townes and places have preferred vnto his Matie and his honbl. Privy Councell severall false and clamourous petitions vpon the importunitie and instigation of Mr. Drake and some other of his adherents concerning a fayre yearly kept on Wayhill and other priveleges and immunities lately granted by his Matie to the Towne and Corporation of Andover in the County of South'ton, and that the

said towne had intentions to remove the said faire some distance from the said hill wee doe dislike such theyre vexatious proceedings thereon and doe believe that in case the faire be kept on any part of the ground called Wayhill yt can be noe damage or prejudice to them or us or any other persons whatsoever that have any trade or comerce att the saide faire. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands the tenth day of November Anno Dom 1682.

54 signatures.

Other counter petitions were from

Ramsbury, Wilts (F. 7)
Ludgershall, Wilts (F. 8)
Great Bedwynne, Wilts (F. 9)
Rumsey (F. 10)
Mayor and Aldermen of Rumsey (F. 11)

Meanwhile the following letter had been received:

"1682, Sep. 30. Sr. The Corpion of Andever hath lately renewed their charter and have gotten these additional priveleges—vizt., to keep Wayhill apud Wayhill or in *tali convenienti loco* where the bayliffe steward and 2 or 3 justices of them shall think fitt. 2. A fortnightly markett for cattel to be kept in Andever. 3. A new faire for the last dayes in August. 4. To issue out and serve writts under 100 li in the outhundred. Some of these grants I understand to be p'judicial to yr towne you have formerly some 8 or 9 years since appeared against them for a new writt of *ad quod damnum* because the writt was then executed at Petersfield unknown to anyone concerned and a new one ordered to be executed at Whitchurch by ye then Lord Chancellor Shaftesbury wh was never executed neither have executed any other since. Herewith I send the Kings order by the Vice Chancellor and University of Oxford upon their petition to his Matye. This is all at present from

"Yor formerly obleiged sevt

"William Drake.

"Wayhill 82 Sep. 30."

The L. Delaware Winton Sands Basingstoke and several others will concur with us

The K's Order at ye Court at Whitehall.

His Matye taking this petition into his princely consideracon is pleased to order yt the parties herein respectively concerned do by their counsell learned attend the Council Chamber on ye first Fryday in Novr. next ensuing to make appear the justice of their pretensions for the continuance or removal of ye faire at Wayhill whereof they are hereby required to take notice and to give their attendance accordingly.

C. Rex.

These To the Right Worfull the Mayor Newbury.

A true copy of ye lre sent by Mr. Drake to Newbury examined at Newbury by us—

W. Dowling
Jos. Gerrarde
C. Burgi de Newburg

After this the lawsuits begin in earnest, but I think the transcript of two papers will enable us to get through the history of nine years of it. The Corporation have two copies of it—F. 32 and F. 33.

1. Tryall. Whereas a cause between John Luffe Dr. of Physick and Thomas Dixon plt. and Walter Robinson Bayliffe of Andover Deft. on a feigned issue settled by my Lord Keeper of the Greate Seale of England was tryed before me at the Castle of Winton the last Summer Assizes and upon a long and full evidence then given. It appeared to the Court that the Bayliffe and Corporacon of Andover by their antient charters and usage had a right to keepe Wayhill faire (the thing then in question) on any place on Wayhill and that the plaintiff had noe right to a faire or any good prescription to bar the Defts. right in keeping the sayd faire on any place on Wayhill. Yett the Jury contrary to the evidence and contrary to the directions of the Court gave their verdict for the plaintiffs.

All which I humbly certifye,

J. Charlton.

17th June 1684.

2nd Tryall. Whereas a cause between John Luffe Dr. in Physick and Thomas Dixon plts. and Walter Robinson Bayliffe of Andover Deft. was by direction of the High Court of Chancery tryed at the Barr of the Exchequer the first Wednesday of this terme. It did appeare upon the evidence that the faire had been removed from the place where it was antiently kept and that the plaintiff had not any tytle to a faire nor any good prescription to barr the Defendants right of keeping it upon any place on Weyhill yet the Jewry contrary to the direcon given by the Court concerning the evidence given and repeated by the Court gave their verdict for the plaintiff. All which we humbly certifie.

16th June 1684.

W. Montagu. W. Gregory.
Edw. Atkyns. F. Street.

3rd Tryall. The third tryall was by a Jury of gent. of Middx—vizt., Sir Richard Fisher, Sir Wm. Hill, Sir Thomas Clerges, &c., who gave their verdict for the Towne which verdict is exemplyfied and nothing said against it.

4th Tryall. The 4th tryall is the speciall verdict sett forth verbatim on the other side of this paper, which says Andover hath the right of the said faire.

And the same twice Decreed in Chancery and more fully explained by the order against which order the appellants now petition the House of Lords.

The verdict upon the fourth tryall

(*Translated from the Latin*)—

The jury say upon their oath that the aforesaid Bailiff, Approved men and Burgesses of Andover aforesaid hold and have by right and are accustomed to hold the aforesaid fair on the lands of the aforesaid

Manor of Ramridge, and upon the glebe lands of the Rectory of Weyhill in the case above mentioned, and also on the land called Blissomore Hall acre. But that the aforesaid Bailiff, Approved men and Burgesses of Andover aforesaid have not the right and power of holding and keeping the fair aforesaid in any other convenient place at Weyhill aforesaid which they, the Bailiff and Approved men of Andever, may procure at their pleasure, as John Luffe alledged in the case above.

## The last decree in Chancery.

The Court on hearing the whole matter and what could be aleadged on either side and reading the last verdict, doth declare that they are fully satisfied with the last verdict for keeping the said faire on the three parcells of ground, viz., on the lands belonging to the Manor of Ramridge, Blissomer Hall acre and the Glebe lands. And therefore doe thinke fitt and so order and decree that the said faire be for the future kept by the Bailiffe, Approved men and Burgesses of Andover on the said 3 places according to the said verdict. And that Andevor be enjoined from keeping the said faire from off the lands mentioned in the said verdict for the future.

The description of some of the papers coming next in order as taken from the catalogue now in progress will tell us enough without opening the papers themselves.

1684, 3 April. Recognizance and bond given by Thomas Dixon of Weyhill, clerk, William Drake of Weyhill, Esq., Nich Norbone of Chute, to give security to abide the order of the Court of Chancery bearing date 21 Feb., 1683. Paper 5 fos. F. 18.

1685, 10 June. Master of Ewelm Hospital versus Baliff of Andever, order for new trial at Exchequer on the ground that on a former occasion the jury was prejudiced, some of them bred upp in Queen's College in Oxford and soe preingaged or interested persons and the said colledge att the charge of the suit. F. 19.

1686, 11 June. Ewelm Hospital v. Bailiff of Andover. Defendants having gained the verdict at the King's Bench by a substantial jury of gentlemen of Middlesex, plaintiffs are to render account of the last 3 fairs according to the recognizances, or in default to putt the recognizance in suit. Former injunction discharged. F. 26.

1686, 16 July. The plaintiffs had lodged a petition on 23 June last complayning of the last order. It is ordered by the Lord Chancellor that the Master state the case specially of the last 3 fairs. Mr. Attorney General to hear both parties, who are to attend him at his house in Hampshire, and he is desired to mediate. F. 27.

*Inter Magrum Didasca's et 13 pauperes hoiés Hospital de Ewelme et al' Quer, et Ballivuim probos hoies et Burgenses de Andever Defts.*

Whereas by an order out of the High Court of Chancery, bearing date the 16th day of July last past, made in this cause the matters in difference was by the said order recommended to mee to hear both parties, and end the same in an amicable way. In persuance thereof I doe hereby appoint Tewsday the 10th day of this instant August at 10 of the clock in the morning, for all parties to attend me at my house at Highelere.

Given under my hand the 6th day of August, 1686.

R. Sawyer.

Wee, whose names are hereunder written, the Bayliffe and Approved men of Andever, doe hereby vnanimously submit all differences and matters in controversy relating to Wayhill faire vnto Mr. Attorney General, and whatsoever determination Mr. Attorney shall make therein wee do hereby promise and agree to stand concluded by. Witness our hands this Nynth day of August, 1686,

| | |
|---|---|
| Tho Westcombe, Bayliffe | Will Dowling |
| John Staniford | Will Cooper |
| Will Gamon | John Bray |
| Na Robinson | Rob Noyes |
| Will Barwick | |
| Ja Grove | |

Note yt on tewsday 10 Aug., 86, Mr. Attorney Generall, in ye presence of severall members of Andever Corporacon, and of Dr. Dixon Rector of Wayhill, proposed an accommodacon an yt Andever should be Kynde to ye Church, and should give him for ye use of his glebe 20li per ann. duringe faire at Wayhill, and remitt ye 3 last years profitts and his part of ye costs, ye Dr. craved tyme to consider of it till tewsday then next following, at wch tyme he declared yt he would not assent thereto vnlesse Andever would give him 10li per ann. more. F. 27 b.

Report of Sir S. Clerke.

21 die February, 1686.

Between Master, &c., of Ewelme and Baliff, &c., of Andover.

In pursuance of an order of the 11th day of June and a subsequent order of the 16th of July last, I have in ye presence of Counsell and Clerks in Court on both sides considered of ye mrés thereby to me referred, And the last mencioned order directing me to state ye mre as to the profitts specially of the three last faires of Weyhill in the County of Southampton. I find by ye proofes in ye cause that the plt. Drake did in the yeares 1683, 1684, 1685 receuive for the profitts of the said faire in the said yeares as follows, vizt.:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| By the sheepe ... ... ... ... ... | 150 | 00 00 |
| By the leather and hopps ... ... ... | 010 | 00 00 |
| By booths ... ... ... ... ... ... | 021 | 00 00 |
| By stalles, cheese and other small profitts ... | 045 | 00 00 |
| makeing in all ... ... ... | 226 | 00 00 |
| Out of which is to be discompted | | |
| For repairing of the hurdles yearely 10'l., out of which must be deducted yearly 2'l. as money made out of the old hurdles, soe that there remains ... ... ... ... ... ... | 08li. | |
| per ann clere, which for the said three yeares come to ... ... ... ... ... ... | 024 | 00 00 |
| For carriage of the hurdles to and fro yearely 2'l. For thatching them yearely 01 10 00. Far watling the hurdles yearley 01li., and for Mr. Drake's interest for the stocke of hurdles | | |

| | |
|---|---|
| proved to be worth about 70li. the yearley sume of 4li. All which payments make 08 10 00 yearely, and for the said three yeares the whole come to ... ... ... ... ... ... | 25 10 00 |
| Both which sumes discompted as aforesaid come to ... ... ... ... ... ... | 049 10 00 |
| Which being taken out of the 226 10 00 aforesaid there doth remaine ... ... ... ... | 177 00 00 |

Which 177li. is clere money recd by the said Compt Mr. Drake over and aboue all reprizes for the profitts of the said faire for the said three years.

But the plte doth insist that the saide faire for the said three yeares was held upon Mr. Drake's owne land, and that Mr. Drake recd the said profitts for pickage and stallage and the use of his hurdles onely, which materialls were provided by him at his owne charge. And that the Bayliffe of Andever did in all the three years aforesaid receiue the profitts of tolles, weights, scales, shoo pence and tapp money, as Lords of the faire. All which I humbly certify and subscribe to the judgement of this honble Court.

S. Clerke. F. 29.

1687, 20 April. The special report of Sir S. Clerke Knt. coming before the Lord Chancellor and argued it is ordered that the report do stand and that the plts do pay the £177 to the defts.

1687, 3 June. Same cause before the Masters of the Rolls the £177 has been paid to the defts. it is ordered that the bill be absolutely dismissed.

Actions were now commenced. William Drake Esqre, versus Thomas Wale senr, William Browne jun, and William Thomas. In trespasse

Plaintiff by his declaracon setts forth that the defts 27 Sept., 1690, *vi et armis* . . did breake and enter and the plaintiffs grasse to the value of 10li then and there growing *pedibus ambulands* did tread downe and consume and 20 boothes 20 stalls and 20 structure of buildings . . . . then and there did disturbe . . . by which the plt lost the profit of the said booths to the value of £200 and other enormities to him did doe contra pacem, &c., which the plt layes to his damage £500.

The defts plead not guilty.

The case was down for trial at Winchester March, 1690-91. F. 36.

But so far as the papers are concerned that is obscured by the case of Kuff versus Barwick, which was for trial at the King's Bench 4th Feb., 1690-91, in which the councell for Andover were Sir Robert Sawyer, Sir Francis Pemberton, Sir J. Tomson, Mr. Holt, Mr. Eyres, and Mr. Guydott. The questions at issue are the same, but the brief is more than commonly interesting.

The Defendants case was 1st to prove the title of the Corporation to the fair, and they are to produce in evidence Charter 41o Elizabeth, K. John's Charter, other confirmacons.

The plaintiffs "will force Andever to keep it (the fair) on their ground, and

produce severall old pedlars who speak to a knowledge of the fair before 41 Eliz., and say that the fair stood then on the plts ground, and that the plt. received money for setting booths, &c., on their ground and because they can prove that time out of mind some part of or fair branched itself out into their ground, they would confine Andover to placing the fair on their ground. Wee having proved Andover to be Lords of the wholl Hundred and owners of the fair now prove the enjoyment of both to this day. Wee make out that Andever keeps a Leet on this Hill receives all waifs strays quit rents &c. and that Mr. Drake pays Andever a quitt rent for his farm.

Witnesses John Read, Robt. Noyes, Robt. Leywood, Richd. Wale, and all plts. witnesses.

Then we prove that Andever have always kept a Toll Booth and a Court of Pypowder have always (at great charge) provided Watchmen to preserve the peace and men's goods during the faire have always rents all tolls weights and scales show pence and all other profitts which are the proper earmarks belonging to a fair. That the toll booth and tent of the fair never stood on their downs but still on Blissmore Hall acre and was so before 41 Eliz.

Witness (additional) ye psh rates Thos. Wale, Richd. Wale, Jo. Smith, Richd. Tarrant.

We have a cloud of witnesses to prove the removal of the fair from place to place.

To prove the Horse fair removed about 15 years since from Sir John Collins his ground (in Monxton psh) to the downs claimed by plts.

Witnesses Tho. Crouch, Jo. Crouch, Peter Wale.

The fatt sheep removed about 12 years since from ye great Road to a piece of Glebe next the gore hedge.

The ffore show formerly stood on Blissmore Hall ground, and the boothes and standings stood there long since memory and now there.

Pedlars removed from Blissmore Hall land and churchrayles unto the land or ground claymed by Mr. Drake.

That the Boothes are removed from Blissmore Hall land westward on the sayd downe claymed by Mr. Drake, and this long since memory, and the very marks in the ground shew it playnly.

And on a view there appears the signes of 23 booths on Blissmore Hall land, and there are not usually above 30 booths in all, and on measuring the length of the former place where the fair stood (as by the signs appears) on Blissmore Hall land was 35 lugg, and now on the downs its but 30 lugg.

The cheese, leather, hopps and joynters removed since memory much more westward by Mr. Drake by his ploughing up a furrow beyond which they must not pitch.

x x x.

Note ye down on wh Mr. Drake pretends to keep the faire he has noe more right to then any man in the parish. It is a common down to all freeholders as well as to ye tenants of yt manor. Then the beginning of Mr. Drake's pretentions to our fair or to the piccage and stallage on this down was about 1651, before which tyme the booths and coops were picht by eny one who could bring and pitch hurdles

and other materials there. All the tenants of their manor as well as Mr. Drake, all the parish as well as those of that manor, and all foreigners as well as parishioners, and its likely before that time Mr. Drake did with the rest sett up some coops and booths and might take money for the use of his stuff, and all this was winkt at by Andever because they had not then a purse sufficient to provide all materialls for so great a faire. , . . .

In the year 1651 Mr. Drake by Articles shutt the other Comoners out from setting up pens in ye fair by granting them in lieu thereof leave to break up Clanfield Downe and Chalkcroft.

Then att or late tryall they quarrell with Andever for getting the fair on Cholderton field, which they say is noe part of Wayhill wee in answer to it prove yt tyme out of mynde some parte of the fair has been always kept on this ground, and yt Mr. Drake himself hath by his servants pitched sheep coops for the fair on this Cholderton field.

Then they make a great Noyes of ye Hospitall right when the Hospital never had 2d. profitt by it either directly or indirectly since its foundation, nor ever paid taxes for it, though rated at near 100li. per annum. . . . .

In Stockbridge Southwark St. Gylles Reeding Uphaven and Horwell fairs the owners have not ye ground. Yett the owners appoynt these fairs ad libitum, and the owners of the land receive satisfaction for the trespass only. . . . .

Note yt notwithstanding the noyes they make of keeping the fair in ye tything of Wey and noe where else, wee prove yt 3 other tythings, viz., Cholderton Munxton (?) Penton have all land on this hill, and have tyme out of mynde parte of ye fair yearly kept on their land there. . . . .

Among the witnesses whose names have not been already given are Joan Limpas, Robt. Tarrant, Tho. Cole, Thos. Figgis, Hugh Gale, Robt. Batt, Peter Wale, Thos. Barrett.

It is very remarkable how these families are still represented in the neighbourhood.

There is one more paper we must put before our readers, 4th Feb., 1691. F. 47.

Upon hearing Councell this Day att the barr upon the petetion and appeal of the Schoolmaster and thirteen Pore men of Ewelme Hospitall in Comitat' Oxon' William Drake Esqr. and Constance his wife and William Goddard of Woodhay in Comitat South'ton from an order made the two and twentieth Day of September last on the behalf of the Bayliffe of the Towne of Andover the Approved or honest men and Burgesses of the said Towne James Groves, William Gammon, William Berwicke, William Cooper, Thomas Westcombe, William Dowling, Edward Noyes, and Robert Noyes, members of the Corporation of Andever, as alsoe upon hearcing Counsell upon the Answere of the Bayliffe Approved men and Burgesses of the Towne of Andover and of James Groves, William Gammon William Barwicke William Cooper Thomas Westcombe William Dowling and Edward Noyes put in thereunto after due consideration had of what was offered by Councell upon the said petition and answer. It is ordered and adjudged

by the Lords Spiritual and Temporall in Parliament assembled that the said order made by the Court of Chancery the two and twentieth day of September last complayned of by the Petitioners shall be, and is hereby sett aside and Reversed.

Math. Johnson, Rer.,
parliamentor.

I freely confess that to an unlegal mind all this is tedious and not a little confusing; but I hope that in printing so much we have done something to make the contents of the town muniment chest intelligible, and a great many facts are brought out which will tend to elucidate obscure points in the history of the town.

The proceedings now take another form, and the best way will be to print this long document dated 19th January, 1694, because it recites the whole history of the trials, which have been exceedingly difficult to follow in detail from the separate papers, many of which are undated. The questions will be found at the end of the document, the answers coming first. Judging from experience it would be possibly a trifle less puzzling to read the "Interrogatories" first.

The answer and examinacon of Nicholas Flower to the interrogatorie exhibited against him touching a contempt supposed to be committed by him in breach of a p'petuall injunc in a cause wherein the Mr. Schoolmaster and thirteen poor men of the hospitall of Ewelme in the county of Oxon, William Drake, Esq., and others are plts., and the Bailiffe, approved men and burgesses of Andever, in the County of South'ton, and others are defts.

To the first interrogatory this respondent saith that he doth confesse and admitt that on the twelfth day of September last which was before the last Weyhill faire, hee was Bailiffe elect of the said Corporacon of Andever, and that one Mr. Francis Norbone did then deliver unto this respondent a coppy of an injunction of such purporte and effect as in and by the saide interrogatory is sett forth, and that the injuncion itselfe under the scale of this Honoble Court was then showed him by the said Francis Norborne, and was by him then made acquainted with the effect of the said injuncon, and this respondent hath the said copy now at the time of his examinacon, and can produce the same, and believes that the parchment writing now produced to him to bee the same original injuncon that was then showed, and believes that severall other like coppyes of the said injuncon were on the said twelfth day of September delivered to and served upon Mr. Edward Watham, Mr. Gabriel Goldney, Mr. Joseph Wimbleton, and others, members of the said Corporacon.

To the second Interrogatory this respondent saith that he admits that the plaintiff William Drake did order Thomas Powell and Hunt, in this Interrogatory named as his workmen, to build stalls, booths and standings on the mannor lands of Ramrage, whereof some parts of Weyhill fair hath been formally placed, and that they were actually att worke thereon the thirteenth day of September last, and saith that on

Monday the eight and twentieth day of August last this respondent did, with Mr. John Bray, then bailiffe of Andover, and other members of the said Corporacon of Andover, repaired to Wayhill and then and there proclaimed the said faire (as the former bailiffes and Corporacon of Andever used to doe) to bee kept on the usuall time there, and appointed the said three places (videt) the mannor lands of Ramrage, Blissmore Hall Acre, and Glebe Lands aforesaid for the same, according to the verdict and decree in the Interrogatory named: and afterwards on the said thirteenth day of September this respondent being imployed by the Corporacon did come with Willm Styles, in this Interrogatory named, and with one John Hammon and some other workmen on Weyhill, and employed them to sett upp stalls, penns and booths for the said faire on Blissmore Hall Acre, and as they were setting them upp at one end of the said Blissamore Hall Acre (videt) about or towards the west end of the said Acre—which this respondent takes to bee and hath been alwayies reputed (as he hath been informed) part of Blissamore Hall Acre aforesaid—the said Hunt and Powell came thither and sett their forks not for the use of the faire but on purpose, as he believes, to disturbe and hinder the said workmen for the Corporacon to set upp stalls, booths or penns there, pretending that it was not part of Blissamore Hall Acre but part of the said manor lands, whereas the same was never part of the said manor that this respondent knowes or has any reason to believe. And this respondent believes and admitts that he ordered the said Styles to sett upp boothes and stalls on that part and all other parts of Blissamore Hall Acre, and that hee would leave him harmlesse herein; and the said Powell and Hunt soe disturbing the workmen for the said Corporacon as aforesaid, this respondent did tell the said Hunt and Powell that these actings of theirs would be a certain way to spoyle the faire, and if soe the town of Andever could live without itt; and this respondent saith that hee did not order Styles, Hammon or any other workmen to sett upp any forke, stalls, boothes, or penns on the said mannor lands at Ramrage, or that they should pitch, stake for stake with them, the said Hunt and Powell there, and this respondent doth confesse and admitts that hee did ride on the said mannor lands and neare to the said Hunt and Powell, but this respondent denies that hee or any other officer or member of the said Corporacon, to his knowledge, did on the said thirteenth day of September, or att any other time since the service of the said Injunction as aforesaid, with any workman or servant, or by rideing crosse or otherwise interrupt or disturbe the said Hunt or Powell, or any other workman, agent or servant of the complainants, or of any of them in carrying of any stake, forke, or other materiall for building or setting up of boothes, stalls, penns or hurdles on any place whatsoever, or when they or any of them was or were carrying of any forke or stake to build any booth or standing, or imployed or ordered any workman whatsoever to interrupt or molest the said Hunt or Powell or any other in the setting upp any booth, stall or stake to build any booths or standing; or imployed or ordered any workman whatsoever to interrupt or molest the said Hunt or Powell or any other in the setting up any boothe, stall or standing, or did employ or order the said William Styles to pitch any forke or stake for the use of the said Corporacon on any the said mannor lands, or did say or tell the said Styles that hee, this respondent, would beare

him harmlesse therein, and also denies that the said Styles or any other, by this respondent's order, or while he was by or present, to his knowledge did pitch any forke or stake intermixt with the plaintiff's servants or any of them save what was sett on Blissamore Hall Acre, and save whot this respondent hath herefore confessed and admitted, or did use any words concerning to the said Styles pitching stake for stake with the said Hunt and Powell, or saving him, the said Styles, harmlesse other then as aforesaid, or did say there should be noe fair or to that effect other then what is before sett forth.

This respondent did further insist and say that as to soe much of the said perpetual injunction sett forth in the first Interrogatory, whereby the said Corporacon, their officers, agents, ministers, and servants are enjoyned and commanded not to disturbe or molest, nor to permitt, suffer, or procure the said Mr. Drake, and his then wife, their servants, workmen, agents, or assignees, or any person under them, in right of the manor of Ramrage, to bee molested or disturbed in building or setting upp of standings, booths, stalls, penns, and hurdles in and upon the lands belonging to the said manor of Ramrage in the ancient and usual manner; and the profitts to the said William Drake and his then wife and other, the plaintiffs, by reason of the premises belonging and apperteyning, to have, receive, gather, and enjoy by themselves, their agents, and servants, peaceably and quietly for ever, without any molestation or interruption whatsoever, according to the tenor and true intention of the severall orders, verdict, and decree in the said injunction specified, the same is irregularly inserted in the plaintiffs' injunction and not warranted by the said verdict or decree, or any order now in force, as he is advised, and humbly conceives, and is likewise advised, and doth insist that as well by the proofes in the said cause, as by the said verdict and decree, it plainly and manifestly appears that the complainants or any of them neither have nor hath any right in the setting upp of any boothes, penns, stalls, standings, or other conveniences for the use of the said faire upon the three parcells of land or any part thereof, but that the same did alwaies, wholly and soly, belong to the said Baliffe, approved men, and burgesses of Andever, for that itt did appeare to this court, as the truth was and is, as this respondent is advised and informed, that Elizabeth, late Queen of England, was seized in fee in right of her crowne of and in the said manor of Ramrage and particularly of the place where the faire hath been usually kept, and the said Queen, being so seized, did by her letters pattents under the Great Seale of England, bearing date the one and twentyeth day of May, in the one and fortyeth yeare of her reigne, grant to the baliffe, approved men, and burgesses of Andever the said faire, with the piccage and stallage and all other profitts, comodities, and appurtenences whatsoever to the same faire belonginge, and that the said manor and lands did remayne in the Crowne till on or about the fifteenth yeare of the late King James the First, when the same were granted to the Regius Professor of Physicke in the University of Oxford, and that in or about the month of December one thousand six hundred seventy and three the complainants first exhibited their bill in this honourable Court touching the matter in question, and did thereby only pray that they may, by Commission, examine such witnesses as they had, for the preservation of their testimony, to bee used att any tryall att lawe as there may be cause, and an

injunction to quiett their possession till effected, or the profitts shall be recovered from them by due course of lawe; and afterwards, the twenty-sixth day of July, six and twentieth yeare of the reigne of the late King Charles the Second, did pray that this Court, for the preservacon of the publick peace and to prevent such disturbance as might happen att soe great a meeting, would grant an injunction for the quieting of the plaintiff Drake, in the possession of the downes and fields at or near Wayhill belonging to the said manor and in such parte of the said faire as had been formerly held and kept or should bee hereafter held or kept thereupon, and in receiving of such dutys that had been formerly to the farmers or lessees of the said farme and demesnes of Ramrage, or their servants or agents, without any disturbance whatsoever by the defendants, or any of their agents, or servants or any claiming for, from, by, or under them, or any other person whatsoever, and the said Court did then order the same and that the defendants and all other persons whatsoever bee enjoyned accordingly, the plaintiffs' counsell further offering to admit of any entry and trespasse as if made by the defendants in the premises in order to bring their title, if they have any, unto a legall determinacon by any tryall att the Common Law without delay; and that afterwards, on or about the twelfth day of June, one thousand six hundred eighty and three, the said complainantes, together with the Rector of Weyhill, did preferre their bill in this honourable Court, and thereby praied that the defendants may be forced to try the issue in that bill mencioned, and did pray an injunction to continue till the issue should bee tryed, and a Commission for examining of witnesses to perpetuate their testimony to bee used att any tryall att lawe, and that afterwards, on or about the seventh of July in the thirty-fourth yeare of the reigne of King Charles the Second, the plaintiffs in the said cause did obteyne an order that the said faire should be kept on the downes, glebe lands, feilds, grounds, att Weyhill belonging to the manor farme and demesnes, and Rector of Wayhill, in the said order mentioned, where the same had been anciently kept, and for that purpose an injunction was thereby granted; but the said plaintiffs were forced to give security, such as the manor therein mencioned should approve of, to bee answerable for the profitts of the said faire if the right on the said tryall should be adjudged against them; and that the issue that was settled between them was to this effect whether the said corporacon of Andever had right and power to appoint the said faire in any convenient place att Weyhill where they should procure at their pleasure, and that the said issue was tryed at the Somer Assizes in the yeare one thousand six hundred eighty and three at Winchester, wherein John Luffe, Doctor of Physick, and the said Thomas Dixon were plaintiffs, and Walter Robinson, Bailiffe of Andever was defendant, after which tryall St. John Charleton, who was the judge that tryed the cause, did the seventeenth of June, one thousand six hundred eighty foure, certifye that upon a long and full evidence then given it appeared to the Court that the Bayliffe and Corporacion of Andover, by their antient Charters and usage, had a right to keepe Wayhill faire (the thing then in question), on any place on Weyhill, and that the plaintiffs had noe right to a faire nor any good prescription to barr the defendants' right in keeping the said faire on any place on Weyhill; yett the jury contrary to the evidence, and contrary to the directions of the Court, gave

their verdict for the plaintiff, and that the defendants having obteyned a new tryall upon the same issue att the Exchequer barr, by a Hampshire jury, the whole Court did unanimously, the sixteenth day of June, one thousand six hundred eighty foure, certifye that it did appeare upon the evidence that the faire had been removed from the place where itt had been antiently kept, and that the plaintiffs had not any title to a faire nor any good prescription to barr the defendants right of keeping itt on any place on Weyhill; yett the jury, contrary to the direction given by the Court concerning the evidence given and repeated by the Court, gave their verdict for the plaintiffs. That afterwards the defendants obteyned another tryall, upon the same issue, by a substantiall Middlesex jury, whereupon a full and faire tryall the defendants obteyned a verdict against the plaintiffs, and there being another tryall, had att the King's Bench barr in Hillary terme, in the year one thousand six hundred and ninety, by a Hampshire jury, the said jury did give their verdict to this effect, that the Bailiffs, approved men, and Burgesses of Andever have held and have right and have accustomed to hold the said faire upon the lands of the manor of Ramrage and upon the glebe lands of the Rectory of Weyhill and also upon the lands called Blissomer Hall Acre, and that the aforesaid Bailiffe, approved men, and Burgesses of Andover have not right and power of having and keeping the said faire in any othor convenient place att Weyhill aforesaid which the said Bailiffe, approved men, and Burgesses of Andover aforesaid should procure at their pleasure; and the cause coming afterwards to be heard upon the Equity reserved in this Court (vidct) in Easter Terme, in the year one thousand six hundred ninety one, this Court, on the hearing of the whole matter and what could be alleadged on either side and reading the last verdict, did declare that they were fully satisfied with the last verdict for keeping the said faire on the three parcells of ground (vidct) on the lands belonging to the manor of Ramridge, Blissamore Hall Acre. and the glebe lands, and ordered, adjudged and declared that the saide faire bee for the future kept by the said Bailiffe, approved men, and burgesses of Andever on the aforesaid places according to the said last verdict, and that the injunction in this cause awarded should bee continued and made perpetual for the prohibiting the said Corporation and Towne of Andever from the keeping and removing of the said fair from the said lands and places mencioned in the said last verdict for the future, which said last verdict and decree hereupon are the same verdict and decree specified in the injunction mentioned in the said interrogatories as this respondent humbly conceives; and this respondent is advised and humbly insists as aforesaid that soe much of the said injunction as is before specifyed is not pursuant to the said verdict or decree, nor is warranted by either of them, nor ought the said injunction, by the constant rules of this Honourable Court, bee awarded in that manner, but the said injunction, att least for soe much thereof as is before specifyed, ought to bee sett aside as irregular, and not any wais to bee made use of to bring this respondent into contempt of this said Court, and therefore this respondent humbly praies hee may have his costes in this behalfe most wrongfully susteyned.

John Squibb.

Capt. apud Andever in Com South'ton decimo nono die Januar. Ano Rni nri Dni & Dne Willi & Mariæ Rx et Rne nunc Angl &c. quinto coram nob'

Will Horbourne Epyke

Interrogatory to bee administered to Nicholas Flower to bee examined touching a contempt supposed to bee by him committed in breach of a perpetual injunction in a cause wherein ye master schoolmaster and thirteen poor men of the hospitall of Ewelme in the County of Oxford, Wm. Drake Esqre and others are plaintiffs and the Bailiffe, approved men and burgesses of Andover in the County of South'ton and others are defendants.

In primis are or were you on or before the twelfth day of September last the Baliffe elect of the Corporacion of Andever or one of the Approved men or one of the Burgesses of the Corporacion of Andever, were you served with or was there delivered to you and to whom else besides on the said twelfth day of September last or at some other time and att which time and was and by whom before the last Weyhill faire a parchment writing perporting to bee a copy of a perpetual injunction made in the said cause mencioned in ye title of these interrogatories bear date the fourth day of September last or of some other and what date whereby the said Bailiffe approved men and Burgesses of ye said Corporacion of Andever and the officers agents ministers and servants were enjoyned and commanded from time to time for the future for ever not to remove the old Weyhill faire from off the three places in the said inj'on mentioned (vidlt) from off Ramrage downe lands belonginge to the said plts. from Blissomer Hall Acre and from off the glebe lands of the Rectory of the Church of Way appointed by ye verdict and decree mencioned in ye sd in'con and alsoe enjoyned and comanded not to disturb or molest nor to permit suffer or procure ye said Wm. Drake and his then wife their servants workmen agents or assigns or any person under you in right of ye mannor of Ramrage to bee molested or disturbed in building or setting upp of standings booths stalls, penns and hurdles in and upon ye lands belonging to ye said manor of Ramrage in ye ancient and usuall manner and the proffitts to ye said Wm. Drake and his then wife and other the plaintiffs by reason of the premises belonging or appertcyning to have receive gather and enjoy by themselves their agents and servants peaceably and quietly for ever without any molestation or interruption wtsoever according to the tenure and true intention of the severall orders verdicts and decrees in the said injunction specified or to ye effect or to any other and what effect and was there att ye same time when such coppy or paper writeing purporting to bee such coppy of ye sd perpetuall injunction was soe delivered to you the said injunction itselfe under seale of this Honble Court or a parchment writing with a yellow wax fixed to the same purporting to bee such injunction under seale of ye said Court shewed to you, and by whom and was you then or att any other time and when made acquainted or told by ye person who served you with the said coppy or by any other and whom that the said parchment writing or copy of parchment writing did import to bee or was ye injunction of this Honourable Court or to any other and have you in your custody or can you produce such parchment writing or coppy what is become of the same and is the parchment writing now produced to you the same originall injunction itselfe that was then shewed to you as you know or believe deed the truly to every article of that interrogatory upon your oath fully.

Item. Did the said plaintiff William Drake and his then wife or either of them or any other of the plaintiffs as you knowe or believe order or appoint Thomas Powell at Appleshaw Nichs Hunte of Shodde Hunt in the County of Southton or any other person or persons and who by name as the agents servants labourers or workmen to build stalls boothes and standings on ye mannor lands of Ramrage in the usuall and convenient places where the said Powell and Hunt or any other person or persons and who by name on the thirteenth day of Sepr. last actually att work in the usuall and convenient places did you as Bailiffe elect for the said Corporacion, or as any other officer or member and what officer or member of the said Corporacion or otherwise on the said thirteenth day of September or at any other time or times, and when come on the said manor lands with severall workmen and servants and with whom by name and interrup or disturb the said plaintiff or the said Hunt and Powell or either of them or any other of the said workmen agents or servants in the carrying of stakes forks and other materialls for building and setting upp of boothes stalls penns or hurdles on the said manor lands on ye usuall and antient places and did you ride crosse or against the said Powell and Hunt or either of them or any others of ye said workmen seruants or agents or by any other meanes interrupt or disturbe them when they or either of them was or were carrying forkes and stakes to build boothes and standings on the said manor lands, did you imploy or order, or who else imployed or ordered Wm. Styles or any other workmen or servants and who by name on the Corporacion of Andever's behalfe or on your owne account and behalfe or cause to interrupt or molest the said plaintiffs' workmen Powell and Hunt or either of them or any other in setting upp boothes stalls or standings on the aforesaid manor lands and did you imploy or order or who else did imploy or order ye said Wm. Styles to pitch forkes and stakes on ye plaintiffs said mannor lands for ye use of ye said Corporacion of Andever did you say to or tell the said Styles that you would beare him harmlesse and did the said Styles or any others and who by your order and while you were so by and present on the said mannor lands pitch severall or any forkes and stakes interrupt the the said plaintiffs servants on the said mannor lands did you declare and say to Tho. Powell and Nich Hunt or to any others then present that the said Styles should pitch stake for stake with the said Powell and Hunt lett them or either of them pitch as far as they or either of them would on the said mannor lands, did you soon afterwards say or declare or tell ye said Powell and Hunt or either and which of them that ye Corporacion could bee without a faire and that there should bee noe fair or used words to that or to any other such like purpose.

Will Narborough
E. Pyke

Before the lawsuits we have already described had come to a conclusion another action was commenced, which is described as

The Towne of Andever v. Dr. Thom. Dixon.

Dr. Dixon was the Rector of Weyhill from 26 June, 1682, till his death, 1722, and the dispute was about the rights in his

glebe. He had been one of the plaintiffs in the action against the Corporation, joining with the Master of Ewelme College. Now the town are suing him. The papers are very voluminous, and, it must be confessed, not a little wearisome. Most of them are not very difficult to read, so perhaps it will suffice if we give little more than the result of the action, which is contained in the decree of the court, F. 63, which will also show the "cross action."

'*Mercurii undecimo die Julii Anno rni Regis & Reginæ Gulielmi and Mariæ Sexto inter Ballivum probos homines & Burgenses Burgi de Andover in Com Suthton Quertes Thoma Dixon Sacræ Thol p'fessor Ecclesia de Weyhill in Eodem Com Rector Deftem Et inter pr. dict Thoma Dixon Quer. pr. dict Ballivum probos homines & Burgenses Deftes.*

"These causes coming to be heard this day before the Rt. Honble. the Lord Keeper of the Great Seale of England in the p'sence of Councell learned on both sides, the said Corporacon of Andover by their bill alleadging that they, the Bayliffe, approved men and Burgesses of the town of Andover, were seized in fee in right of theire said Incorporacon of and in a fayre called Weyhill fayre with a py powder court toll and other p'fitts thereto belonging, and that divers controversies had arisen between them and the said Dr. Dixon and others touchinge the placing of the said fayre on their several lands on Weyhill, and that after several tryalls att law and hearings in this Court itt was at last decreed by this Court in favour of the said Corporacon, which decree was founded on a verdict obteyned att the King's Bench barr, and that it was thereupon recomended to Sir Robert Sawyer, Knight, then Attorney Generall, to make an end of all differences between the said Corporacon and Dr. Dixon, and thereupon the said Corporacon and Dr. Dixon, about the twentyethe day of August, 1686, did enter into articles of agreem't, reduced into writing under hand and seale and duly executed thereby, reciting that a decree had then lately been made, asserting that the placinge and ordering the sayd fayre doth belong to the said Corporacon, and that the said Dr. Dixon and others then concerned should be accomptable to the said Corporation for the profitts of the three last fayres by him and them received, and that by an order of this court made the sixteenth of July then last past itt was recommended to Mr. Attorney Generall to end all matters in difference between the said partyes, and that the said Corporacon and Dr. Dixon attending the said Attorney Generall he was pleased to direct as followeth (vizt.) that the said Corporacon should relinquish to the said Dr. Dixon the three yeares p'fitts of the said fayre by them received, and also his part of the costs of suite decreed to the said Corporacon of Andover should have the free use of all the gleab lands on Weyhill for keeping the fayre thereon, and should have the sole use of such parts of the said gleab, lodging theare hurdles and other materialls used about the fayre in the same manner as the said Dr. Dixon hath formerly done, for all which pr'misses the said Corporacon of Andover should pay to the said Dr. Dixon on Michaelmas day yearly, at the Parsonage house in Weyhill the sume of twenty pounds

for so long tyme as he should continue Rector of Weyhill, to all which desires and directions of Mr. Attorney Generall the said Corporacon and Dr. Dixon then submitting did mutually covenant with each other to stand to and be concluded by, but the said Dr. Dixon of late refused to stand to the said articles or to make the Corporacon any lease of his said gleab land, but brought an accon att law ag't them touching the p'mises, and therefore the said Corporacon of Andever prayed that the said accon att law might be stayed and that the said Dr. Dixon might be decreed to p'form the said articles and make them a lease of the said gleab land, whereto the councell for the said Dr. Dixon insisted that he by his answer had sett forth that the said articles of agreement were grounded upon the decree of this Court made the eleaventh day of June, 1686, above menconed, and on the aforesaid order of this Court made the sixteenth day of July, and that the said order and decree are since sett aside and reversed by the decree of this Court made the twenty-second day of May in the third year of theire pr'sent Maj'ties' reign upon a bill of review brought for that purpose by the hospitall of Ewelme ag't the said Corporacon of Andover and the right of the said Church and hospitall of having the said fayre held on their lands and on a place called Blissomer hall are thereby and by a verdict had att the King's Bench barr by a jury of Hamshire, in Hillary term, in the second year of their p'sent Majesties' reigne, which was settled and asserted, notwithstanding which last verdict and decree the Corporacon of Andover had removed the Wiltshire and Hampshire sheepe coops from a certayne parcell of gleab land conteyning five acres, called fair lands, to other places where no part of the faire was ever kept before, and had inverted the said faire in the manner of placing and keeping thereof, and that the said Dr. Dixon att the tyme when he submitted and executed the said articles was forced and terrifyed into a compliance to avoyd accompting for the profitts of the three former faires and payment of the costs of the former suite, and thereof he ought not to be decreed to a specific execucon of the said articles which were founded on an erronious verdict and decree which have been since sett aside and reversed, but that he might be p'mitted to proceed on his accon at law ag't the said Corporacon he had set forth that part of the said faire had tyme out of mind been kept on certain p'cell of gleab land belonging to the said Rectory (vizt.) on a certayn parcell of the said gleab land called fayre lands aforesayd, conteyning about five acres, and on one other acre of the said gleab land bounded southward with the gore hedg and on one other acre lying next the highway on the south side of the church of Way, and on half an acre lying on the comon down called Weyhill down, and that the said Corporation of Andover had by colour of the said articles removed the said faire from the said p'cell of land. and had inverted the same in the manner of keeping and holding thereof, and that the said Dr. Dixon had been as aforesaid forced and terrified into the said articles, and therefore and for the reasons aforesaid prayed that the said articles might be set aside and discharged and that the said faire might be kept on the same place and in the same manner as formerly, whereunto the counsel for the said Corporacon insisted that by their answer they had sett forth that the said articles were fayrely obteyned and that the said Dr. Dixon entered into the same freely and voluntarily without any compulsion whatsoever, and tho the former decree was reversed by other persons yett the same stood in force ag't

the said Dr. Dixon and he could have no advantage thereof, and insisted that the said articles ought not to be sett aside, but that the said Dr. Dixon ought to perform, whereupon and upon long debate of the whole matter and upon reading the said articles of agreement and the proofs so taken in both the said causes this Court doth by and with the consent of the councell of the said Corporacon of Andover and Dr. Dixon (Mr. Nicholas Flower and Mr. William Dowling, the present Bailiff and Town Clerk of Andover, and the said Dr. Dixon being all present in court and consenting thereto) order and decree that such part of the said faire as hath been antiently been kept on the afore-menconed p'cells of gleab land belonging to the said Rectory shall for the future be kept on the same p'cell of gleab land and in the same manner as the same was anciently kept, and the said Corporacon of Andover shall have the sole use of such parts of the said gleab land during the tyme of the faire and such tymes before and after, as usuall for keeping and holding the faire thereon, and setting up and taking down thereof yearly for so long tyme as the said Dr. Dixon shall continue Rector of Weyhill, and shall receive the profitts arising on the aforesaid p'cells of gleab land to their own use without his interruption or molestation, and it is further ordered and decreed by consent as aforesaid that the Bayliffs approved men and Burgesses of the said town of Andover shall upon Michaelmas Day yearly during so long as the said Dr. Dixon shall continue Rector of Weyhill for the future pay to the said Dr. Dixon att his Parsonage house upon Weyhill till the sum of thirty and five pounds of lawful English money and shall make the first payment thereof on Michaelmas Day next, and shall also att the same tyme and place pay to the said Dr. Dixon what remains due of the sum of twenty pounds being due and owing to the said Dr. Dixon for the last yeares p'fitts of the said fayre reserved to him in and by the said articles, and it is further ordered and decreed by this Court that the Bayliffs and Town Clerk of Andover of the one part and the said Dr. Dixon of the other part, being all p'sent in Court and consenting thereto, shall subscribe their names to the Registrar's book as an evidence of their consent to this order and decree, and that the thirty-five pounds per ann. now decreed to the said Dr. Dixon shall be subject and lyable to taxes in case the said twenty pounds per ann. aforesaid by the said articles were and are subject and lyable to the same and that the articles and agreement aforesaid shall upon signing the Registrar's book and passing of this order as aforesaid be delivered up on either side to be cancelled, and it is further ordered and decreed that the said Bayliff approved men and Burgesses of the Town of Andover shall for the future have free liberty and leave to place and lodg their stack or pile of hurdles and all other materials which they shall use for penning of sheep and building of boothes, stalls, and standings upon the before-menconed p'cells of the gleab land in such place or places onely as the said Dr. Dixon hath formerly made use of for that purpose.

"L. CARN GUIDOTT.

"Deput. Reg."

We may well pause at the end of this long document, and ask hopefully whether it is not the end of the chapter; such hopes cannot be encouraged, law-suit has succeeded law-suit, and

perhaps judging from our feelings as we read about it, we might be tempted to think the Andover folks had had enough of it. But the Andover folks of the close of the seventeenth century, like their descendants of the present day, were crammed full of British pluck, and were as far off as ever from knowing when they were beaten, and all I can allow my readers in the way of respite is to turn for a moment to another series of records.

In "Liber C" the Maneloquium or Town Council Minute book we read under 1692:

"Ordered that a lease be taken of Mr. Richard Kent, of Blissmore Acre att Weyhill, for seaven years from ye date att tenn guineas per ann. rent."

There is no entry of the formal appointment of Trustees, but that was apparently one of the next steps, for we find one of Leases (numbered L. 12. 1.) is an

"Indenture between the Bailiff and Corporation of Andover and Joseph Wimbleton of Andover, gent., Edward Warham of Andover, Nicholas Flower of Andover and Robert Hillman of Andover, Trustees of Fairs and Markets to receive all Tolls, &c., and to pay over to the use of the Corporation and to hold in trust the Lease of the Glebe Land called Whitecroft at Weyhill, from Dr. Dixon Rector of Weyhill, for 50 years from the 15th September to the 15th October in each year with liberty to keep a stack or pile of hurdles there at the rent of £5 for the first two years and afterwards at £9, which lease is dated 2 June 1700."

The counter-part Indenture is L. 12. 2.

"In 1729 Articles of Agreement (L. 12. 3.) were signed between the Rev. Joseph Todhunter Rector of Weyhill and the Bailiff and Corporation of Andover, to let for 21 years the glebe at Weyhill for a sheep fair at the yearly rent of £46 less rates &c., and to sell the hurdles at a valuation."

And among the papers there is the following receipt:

Weyhill, Sep. 27 1729.

"Received then of Mr. Thomas Woodman Bailiffe of Andover the sum of fourty six pounds by John Hacker being in full for ye rent due on account of ye sheep fair holden on the glebe this year.

"Received I say by me,

"JOSEPH TODHUNTER,

"Rector of Weyhill."

This looks as if things had gone on fairly smoothly, more so than one would have expected from the rather truculent resolution passed by the Council in 1692.

"To be payd by Mr. Bayliffs order w'ch funds are out of the moneys late received from Mrs. Hawker which said sumes are accordingly paid and now remains of the three hundred pounds taken up of Mrs.

Hawkins the sum of eighty pounds as a fund for ye use of the Corporation to carry on any contest y't shall or may happen about Weyhill fayre or otherwise which sayd fourscore pounds is in Mr. Rawlyes hands answerable by Mr. Bayliffe."

This is not the place to go into the financial matters of the town, but there is a document which, though it is 200 years old, yet makes one conscious of a cold creeping sensation when you look at it, but yet gives a nearly complete record of the doings during these years. It is Mr. Dowling's bill.

You don't, as a rule, look to lawyer's bills as likely to afford light and amusing reading; but seeing that I think we have followed events with some closeness and quoted so much from gentlemen of the long robe to prove the steps we have traced; and seeing, moreover, that the statute of limitations removes all the terrors of this bill, we may just dip into it for a few items which shew the manners and customs of travel and such like. It begins 1690.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Sep. 1690. | My expenses up to L'don & down and on the Clarks & Officers of ye Cort. ... ... ... ... | 1 | 10 | 6 |
| | To Sr. Charles Porter ... ... ... ... | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| | his clerk ... ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| | to Sejt. Killingworth ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | 3 | 9 |
| | his man ... ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| | Mr. Squibb ... ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| | Affidt filing and copy ... ... ... ... | 0 | 5 | 6 |
| | Coach to Hamsteed and expenses there ... ... | 0 | 5 | 4 |
| | pd. Mr. Stone to copy Brevatts ... ... ... | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| | The Lords Comrs. officers had in all ... ... | 0 | 16 | 6 |
| | lre ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| | | 8 | 4 | 0 |
| | Rec. ... ... | 6 | 10 | 0 |
| | payd them more than recd ... | 1 | 14 | 0 |
| | besydes horse hyre ... ... | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| | | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| 1690. Weyhill faire. | I payd Nat Webb for horse hyre for 17 dayes for his horse to Weyhill, Winton, Combe, Tedworth, Chute and to Weyhill many dayes before and after the faire ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 17 | 0 |
| | Besydes the moneys pd by Mr. Bayliffe Barwicke to Council and in Court, I disbursed ... ... | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| | My coach hyre and expenses up purposely to the hearing the beginning of the terme and stay 10 dayes on it ... ... ... ... .. | 1 | 15 | 4 |
| | To Mr. Guydott ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | To Moring to warne some men ... ... ... | 0 | 2 | 6 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Spt att Angell on some witnesses ... ... ... | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| | on others at Winton ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 4 | 6 |
| | The expenses of my horse, &c., in ye Inne ... ... | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| | Pd the officers for placing wittnesses at tryall ... | 0 | 8 | 6 |
| | Horse hyre and expenses up and sending downe ... | 0 | 17 | 6 |
| | My expenses the first 5 dayes ... ... ... | 0 | 12 | 6 |
| | To Mr. Squibb for his advice and dr. pleas ... | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| | To Sejt. Pemberton ye like ... ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| | lrs to and from abt yt affair of the pleas ... ... | 0 | 1 | 10 |
| | Drawing Breviatts in 2 causes, 3 copies each, and attendance ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | I pd halfe a crown to gett off W. Thomas ... ... | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| 1691. | My expenses up to the hearing on the Equity reserved and 8 daye attend thereon ... ... | 1 | 15 | 0 |
| | Copyes of declar and close copy lres ... ... | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| | Reteyned Mr. Holt ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| | I pd the Register for his hand to the order ... | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| | Spt on him then ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| | My journey up and stay a weeke in Andever's buisinesse ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 18 | 0 |
| 1691. 11 Sep. | My coach hyre, horse hyre and expenses up and downe to and from London and stay there 3 days, and spent on the messenger in all ... ... | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| 20 Sep. | Oath and expenses up to London ... ... ... | 0 | 16 | 6 |
| 1691. | Sjt. Thomas Powis ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | Sr. Ambrose Phillips ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | Their Clarkes ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| | To Mr. Bratherton ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | To Mr. Squibb ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| | To Mr. English to gett the private seale ... ... | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| | Spt att the S Johns head tavern on the Register, Mr. Guydott, Clarkes in Court and officers ... | 0 | 18 | 6 |
| | Pd fees for the private seale ... ... ... | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| | Spt the first night at a meetin of or Councell, Mr. Bramston at Ks head tavern ... ... ... | 0 | 7 | 4 |
| | My other expenses whilst in towne ... ... | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| | Coach and expenses downe ... ... ... ... | 0 | 17 | 0 |
| 169½ | To Mr. Guydott 2 guineas, Mr. Squibb 2 G, his drawing 5 case in p'liamt for ye presse ... ... | 5 | 9 | 2 |
| | Coach wth Mr. East and Mr. Cooper ... ... | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | Mr. Peasley had of me to attend some Lords ... | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| | lres and parcels and porter ... ... ... ... | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| | My expenses and coach up and downe and in London | 3 | 05 | 0 |
| 17 Mar. 9½ | My journey to London to remove the shouldiers, pd and expended in searches and fees at Whitehall, and expenses in my journey up to London, downe & in towne ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | 16 | 4 |

It is true this is just over two centuries ago. It is also true that money was worth more then than now, but—! ! ! *tempora mutantur*. If we had not the actual bill itself it would be difficult to think these figures could be accurate. But they

are simply incontestable; other things beside horse hyre have gone "up" since the worthy Will Dowling, town clerk of Andover, made his journeys.

There are some more of his bills and accounts which do not bear so directly on our present subject; from one dated 1694 I cull the following:—

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sept. 1. | Expenses in my lodging and for lodging, &c. ... | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| | Horse meat and Ostler 1 day and night after Mr. Warham went ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 1 | 9 |
| | My charges in going up and downe to and from London on purpose, and my paynes in 12 dayes' stay there in attending ye Courts for hearing .. | 2 | 17 | 0 |
| 1692. | Expended on ye Tollgate man when I took instruccon of them ... ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| | Gave Sejt. Gold a guinea for advice about ye declaracon for the toll ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| | I paid Mr. Tanner as followeth for lres sent to him for the Corporacon about ye souldiers and attend Lord Chief Justice, Mr. Thinn ... ... ... | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | For wateridge and expenses to Whitehall twice to Mr. Elaine ... ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 2 | 10 |
| | For my owne paynes and trouble in all these things this terme ... ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 13 | 4 |

Wateridge I have little doubt means boat hire. Sir Robert Sawyer's fee for his arbitration was 4 guineas; "his man," 2s. 6d.

A printed form, filled in, but neither signed nor sealed, sells on the part of the Corporation "all that our pyle and parcell stock and store of hurdles which are now lying and being att, upon or neare Weyhill, together with all our luggs, stakes and shackles therewith and thereto belonging, for the sum of £130; but with power reserved of repurchase for £137 on or before 21 Sep. 1692." This deed is dated 1691 (F. 39).

I transcribe the following letter from the Rev. J. Todhunter because it seems such a delightful sample of stately, old fashioned courtesy. The handwriting is precise neatness itself.

Weyhill, Sep. 16 1729.

Sir,—The sheep-coops on the Glebe, the 2 last years were let at 18d. a thorough, and I believe at no more the 5 years preceding. Edward Barnes and Robert Sugates have their own books. I have a book of Mr. Drake's, which gives a general account of ye state of the fair for ye last 7 years, which you or any Gentleman or Agent of ye Corporation is wellcome to a sight or a transcript of. But ye right to the original I apprehend is not in me. If you have ye perusal of it I must expect it

again to return it to ye proprietor when called upon. The 2 books I send belong to G. Guate of Fyfield and Thomas Millett of Kympton. I should be glad to do the Corporation any good office in the power of

Sir,

Your very humble servant,

JOSEPH TODHUNTER.

To Mr. Noyes,
Town Clerk of Andover.

I think, too, this valuation is interesting :

Sep. ye 28, 1729.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| The number of the Hurdles at Weyhill belonging to Andover is one Hundred and Seventy-five duzen, vallued at two shillings a duzen comes to seventin pounds and eleven shillings ... ... ... ... ... | 17 | 11 | 00 |
| The pelts are sixty-nine duzen, at one shilling a duzen comes to ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 03 | 09 | 00 |
| | 21 | 00 | 00 |

Vallued by
Chas Guyett and Thomas Percy.

Trouble does not seem to have been ought of sight even when business was going on smoothly. The following printed notice has been used for some memoranda, and has thus been preserved (F) :

Andovor, Sep. 25, 1732.

Whereas the members of this Corporation and others inhabitants of *Andevor*, Received last night by the Post, and many Farmers have also received, a printed Advertisement without any name to it dated *London*, August 24, 1732, tending to discourage Persons from Penning their sheep on the Corporation Land next *Weyhill* Fair. Whoever will give information of the Author, Printer, or Publisher of the said Advertisement, or of any Person who shall disperse or Publish the same shall receive on Conviction of such Person Five Guineas Reward of the Bayliff of the said Corporation.

The facts mentioned in the advertisement are fallacious and require no other answer than to put the county in mind of the attempts made some years ago publickly to frighten people from penning upon the Corporation Land and the determination of the *High Court of Chancery* soon after in favour of the Corporation, notwithstanding the perpetual injunction mentioned in the advertisement these attempts having been lately in part repeated induced the Corporation (to prevent peoples being imposed upon and frightened by false insinuations) to promise an indemnity which they are ready to give in the most authentick manner to any person desiring it, being determined to support their right as by Law they may.

The lands and premises upon which the Fairs at Weyhill are held were with other lands leased in 1816 by the two chaplains and thirteen poor men of Ewelm Almshouses to

the late Mr. F. Tabor, who at his death bequeathed the same in shares to his children. One of these shares purchased in 1883 by the late Mr. G. Breadmore was offered for sale by auction by Messrs. Ellen on the 10th November, 1893. It was described as "A one-ninth share of the profits arising from the Rents, Tolls, Dues, &c., receivable in respect of the Noted Weyhill Fair."

A disaster which happened in 1764 is thus described in a brief in the British Museum (B. xxv. 1). The mere formal matter is omitted.

"George the third, &c. To all, &c. Whereas it hath been represented unto us as well upon the humble petition of Thomas Pattard of Sherbourne in the county of Dorset carrier, William Nois of Andover in the county of Southampton victualler, and Sarah Simms of Fullerton in the said county of Southampton, sufferers by fire as by certificate under the hands of our trusty and well beloved justices of the peace for the said county of Southampton assembled at their General Quater Sessions of the peace held at Winchester in and for our said county on Tuesday the tenth day of January in the 26th year of our reign—That on the fifteenth day of October one thousand seven hundred and sixty four, a sudden and terrible fire broke out at Weyhill Fair in the parish of Penton Grafton in the said county of Southampton in a booth there called the White Hart booth kept by the said James Barham, which fire instantly spreading in a short time consumed the same booth called the White Hart booth and several other booths and standings and large quantities of hops with sundry goods, wares and merchandise. That the truth of the premises was made appear to our justices of the peace assembled at the General Quarter Sessions aforesaid as well as on the petition of the said poor sufferers as by the oaths of several credible persons who were well acquainted with the premises before the sad accident happened, and who have made an estimate of the loss sustained by the said poor sufferers, which upon a reasonable computation amounts to the sum of eight hundred and eighty eight pounds thirteen shillings and ninepence, whereby the poor sufferers are reduced to very low and necessitous circumstances and rendered unable to support themselves without the charitable contributions of well disposed Christians. Wherefore the said poor sufferers have joined together and humbly besought us to grant unto them our gracious letters patent &c., to empower them to collect and receive the alms benevolent and charitable contributions of our loving subjects throughout England &c., and from house to house throughout our Counties of Southampton Wilts Dorset Somerset Berks and Surrey &c. Thomas Gollop Esq., the Rev. Nathaniel Bristoo vicar, Simon Proctor, John Chafie, John Duning, Peter Braham, Thomas Stevenson and Wilditch, gentlemen trustees and receivers."

I do not recognise any of the names except Mr. Gollop, who the Rev. Nathaniel Bristoo may have been I cannot tell. There is no Vicar. The Rector of Weyhill from 1756 to 1797 was Joseph Stephens, D.D.

## CHAPTER IV.

---

## THE STORY OF WHERWELL ABBEY.

"—— in every land
I saw, wherever light illumineth,
Beauty and anguish walking hand-in-hand,
The downward slope to death."

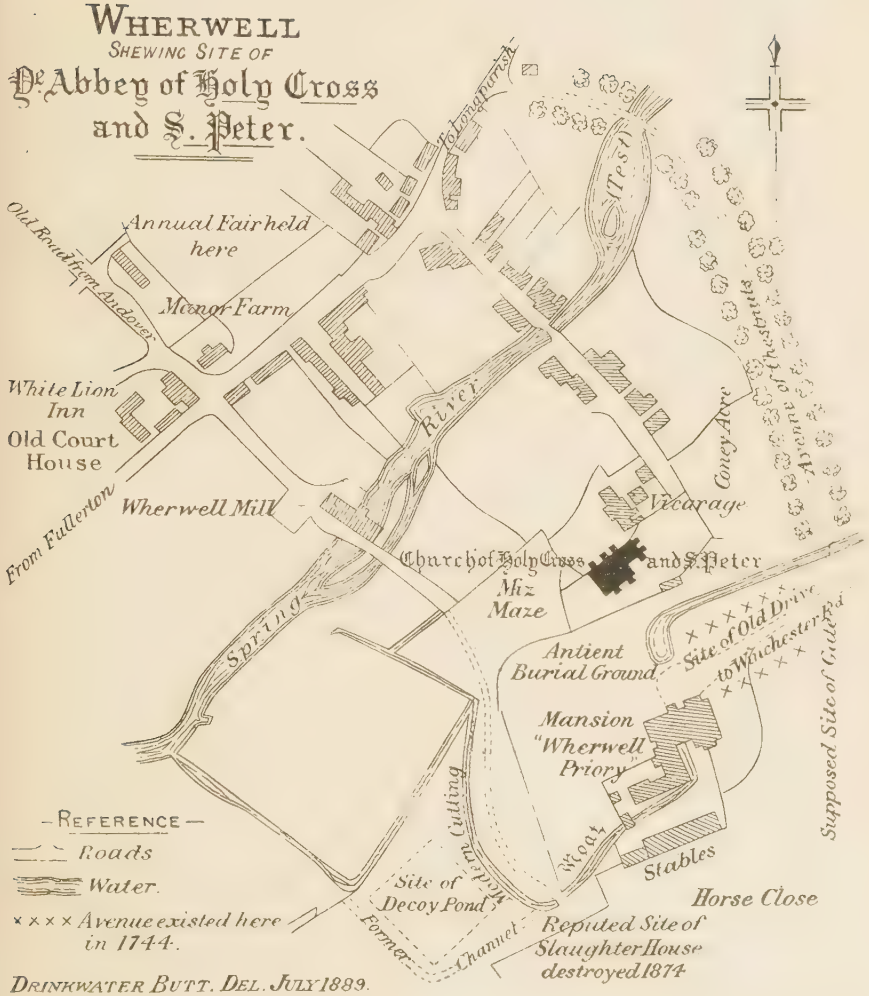
TENNYSON—"*A dream of fair women.*"

Wherwell, a parish of 541 inhabitants, stretching along the western bank of that "troutful stream" the Test: although presenting an almost perfect example of quiet rural scenery, has yet nothing to indicate the very great historical interest which attaches to it. The home, or the quiet resting place, of at least three, and possibly four English Queens, who were renowned for their extraordinary beauty; this retired Hampshire monastery might, one would have thought, have been a spot famous and familiar to relic loving people, but it does not seem to be so, and the troubles and sorrows which tracked the footsteps of those who were the most conspicuous characters connected with it make the story of Wherwell "a dream of fair women" for which the saddened words of the Laureate form a natural and appropriate motto.

Of Wherwell Abbey itself there are no remains whatever, and beyond the account given by Dugdale there is very little written about it; while the fact that several of the documents he prints are in somewhat obscure mediæval Latin, makes even that unattractive to the general reader.

Bishop Tanner, mentioning it in his "Notitia Monastica," gives a large number of references to public records, which it has been the object of the writer to work up. But space has necessarily confined the scope of this paper, which is, confessedly, but a slight sketch and is not to be regarded as exhaustive.

The history of the Abbey of Holy Cross and St. Peter, at Wherwell, includes the history of the parish in which it is situate down to the year 1540, because the parish, as such, hardly had any separate existence, so long as the Superior of the Monastery was Lady of the Manor, and owned the whole


WHERWELL
SHEWING SITE OF
Ye Abbey of Holy Cross
and S. Peter.
To Longparish
(Test)
Old Road from Andover
Annual Fair held here
Manor Farm
White Lion Inn
Old Court House
From Fullerton
Wherwell Mill
River
Coney Acre
Avenue of Chestnuts
Vicarage
Church of Holy Cross and S. Peter
Miz Maze
Spring
Antient Burial Ground
Site of Old Drive
to Winchester Rd
Supposed Site of Guild
Mansion "Wherwell Priory"
Moat
Stables
Horse Close
Site of Decoy Pond
Cutting
Former Channel
Reputed Site of Slaughter House destroyed 1874
REFERENCE
Roads
Water.
Avenue existed here in 1744.
DRINKWATER BUTT. DEL. JULY 1889.

village and a large part of the neighbourhood, the social life of which centred round and largely depended upon the convent.

But although the Abbey of Wherwell owned so much of the surrounding land, there was a Manor in the parish of Wherwell, which did not belong to them, but which it is necessary to mention because it gives a clue to what determined the choice of the site. The earliest mention of the place appears to be in the will of King Edred, A.D. 946-955, which begins thus :—

"In the name of the Lord, this is the will of King Eadred. That is then first that he gives to the place where he wills that his body shall rest two golden roods, and two golden handled swords, and four hundred pounds. Then he gives to Winchester, to the Old Monastery three towns, that is, then Downton, and Damerham and Calne. Then he gives to the New Monastery three towns, that is then Whorwell and Andever and Clere."—Liber de Hyde, p. 346.

Referring to Domesday we are able to assert that this bequest was the Manor of *Fugelerestune* now called Fullerton, which is the South West part of the Parish of Wherwell. It is thus described :—

"The Abbey of St. Peter holds Fullerton, and it was always Abbey land. It was assessed in the time of King Edward at 5 hides, and now at 1 hide. Here are 3 ploughlands, 2 in demesne, and 5 villeins and 4 borderers with 1 ploughland, also 4 servants, a mill worth 10s., and 4 acres of meadow. Its value was 50s., now 60s."

The monks of St. Peter's, the "New Monastery," subsequently called Hyde Abbey, were vigorous opponents of William the Conqueror, who took this Manor from them, says Thomas Rudborne, "and gave it to his knights."

But while King Edred bequeathed this Manor of Fullerton, said in Domesday to have been "always Abbey land," to the "New Minister," we can trace the other Manor of Wherwell almost as clearly through his nephew King Edgar, from his aunt Wenfleda, presumably Edred's widow.

One of the most interesting documents printed in Dugdale is a passage from the MS. of John of Tinmouth in the Bodleian Library, which is here condensed.

After the very remarkable story of her ancester being found in a bird's nest by King Alfred, this chronicle goes on to say :—

An infant was born to them, and was called Wlfhilda, who, from her very weaning was placed at Wilton to be educated with the nuns there. In time, King Edgar, as he could not fetch her to himself, nor dared to take her from the church, tries through his aunt, whose name was Wenfleda, to entrap her. Whereupon feigning feebleness, she invited

the girl to her house at Warewell, as that she might make her the heiress of her property, at her death, as if she were her own niece. When she had arrived, behold, King Edgar sitting at a feast, Wenfleda with him, not feeble, but merry with royal cheer. The girl is ordered to her chamber to prepare herself royally, and to be brought to the King. The King made her sit down by his side, and promised her riches, a kingdom, and to become Queen and Lady of Britain if she would be united to him in marriage. But the maiden, with silent tongue, yet beating heart, offered supplication to Christ, and silently prayed to be delivered. Feigning sickness, she leaves the feast for a while to rest in her chamber, as if she were weary. But the King, that she might not in any way escape, places a guard of soldiers at the door of her chamber. The maiden, therefore, as if for private necessity goes whither it were disgraceful for men to follow, and having taken off her stately garments, led by an angel, escapes in flight through the passage of the drain, and in the vill of Wherwell, she was entertained as a beggar in the hovel of a certain very poor woman, and in the morning she comes with haste to Wilton.

It will be well to notice here that the anecdotes related by William of Malmesbury and others make it very plain that Edgar himself spent much time in the neighbourhood of Andover, which is but three and a half miles from Wherwell, and to tell our story we must give one of these anecdotes (which is corroborated by other chroniclers) in his own words:

There was in his (Edgar's) time one Æthelwold, a nobleman of celebrity and one of his confidants, him the King commissioned to visit Elfrida, daughter of Orgar, Duke of Devonshire (whose charms had so fascinated the eyes of some persons that they commended her to the King) and to offer her marriage if her beauty were really equal to report. Hastening on his embassy and finding everything consonant to general estimation he concealed his mission from her parents and procured the damsel for himself. Returning to the King he told a tale which made for his own purpose, that she was a girl of vulgar and common-place appearance, and by no means worthy of such transcendant dignity. When Edgar's heart was disengaged from this affair, and employed on other amours some tatlers acquainted him how completely Æthelwold had duped him by his artifices. Driving out one nail with another, that is returning him deceit for deceit, he showed the earl a fair countenance, and, as in a sportive manner appointed a day when he would visit this far-famed lady. Terrified almost to death with this dreadful pleasantry, he hastened before to his wife entreating that she would administer to his safety by attiring herself as unbecomingly as possible, then first disclosing the intention of such a proceeding. But what did not this woman dare? She was hardy enough to deceive the confidence of her miserable lover, her first husband, to adorn herself at the mirror, and to omit nothing which could stimulate the desire of a young and powerful man. Nor did events happen contrary to her design for he fell so desperately in love with her the moment he saw her that dissembling his indignation he sent for the Earl into a wood at Warewelle under the pretence of

hunting and ran him through with a javelin. When the illegitimate son of the murdered nobleman approached with his accustomed familiarity and was asked by the King how he liked that kind of sport, he is reported to have said, "Well my sovereign liege, I ought not to be displeased with that which gives you pleasure," with which answer he so assuaged the mind of the monarch, that for the remainder of his life he held no one in greater estimation than this young man, mitigating the offence of his tyrannical deed against the father by royal solicitude for the son.

Colonel Iremonger in 1835 erected in Harewood forest, part of which is in the parish of Wherwell, a cross commonly known as "The monument," with this inscription:

About the year of our Lord DCCCCLXIII. upon this spot beyond time of memory called Deadman's Plack, tradition reports that Edgar, surnamed the peaceable, King of England, in the ardour of youth, love, and indignation, slew with his own hand his treacherous and ungrateful favourite Earl Athelwold, owner of this forest of Harewood, in resentment of the Earl's having basely betrayed and perfidiously married his intended bride the beauteous Elfrida, daughter of Ordgar, Earl of Devonshire, afterwards wife of King Edgar, and by him mother of King Etheldred the II. which Queen Elfrida, after Edgar's death, murdered his eldest son King Edward the Martyr, and founded the Nunnery of Whorwell.

It has been pointed out that "we can see in the conflicting narratives of Edgar's reign the traces of the feud between the regular clergy who speak in his praise, and the stories so inconsistent with morality, much less with religion which are current concerning his reign, and which, it may be, the secular clergy, who were ousted to make room for monks, preserved or even invented concerning the King who was so hard on their order." But although the wording of the inscription seems to indicate a more favourable view of Edgar's character than perhaps history warrants, it is not probable that this controversy had anything to do with it. And the statement that Earl Ethelwold was owner of Harewood forest, needs confirmation.

But the fact of Edgar's marriage with Ælfrida and of their son being afterwards King Ethelred II. are beyond all dispute. The murder also of Edward the Martyr at Corfe Castle—which treacherous deed is said to be the origin of the ceremonial of the loving cup—is a matter of history. A further incident mentioned by the chroniclers which has some bearing on the characters of the persons we are speaking of is that when Ælfrida's son Ethelred was ten years old, a report reached him that his half brother Edward had been killed, at which he wept, which so irritated his furious mother, that

not having a whip at hand, she snatched up some candles and nearly beat his life out so that he dreaded candles all the rest of his days. Bishop Tanner says Elfrida was the lady that caused Brithwide the first Abbot of Ely to be murdered.

It was as a proof of penitence for the bloodshed in which she had been concerned, that in A.D. 986, Ælfrida founded Wherwell Abbey for Benedictine nuns.

Capgrave says, "After him (Edgar) was his son Kyng, which is a martir killed by the fraud of Alfrick, his stepmodir, but after that sche ded penans sche translat him onto Shaftisbyry, and too monasteries of women did sche make on at Wherwell, where sche lith, and other at Amesbury hard by Salisbury."

William of Malmesbury says, "In expiation of this crime a monastery, which was built on the spot (*i.e.* of the murder of Earl Æthelwold) by Ælfrida, is inhabited by a large congregation of nuns."

In the Chartulary of Wherwell Abbey, presumably the book Tanner notices as in possession of Joshua Iremonger, Esqre., and which Dugdale saw in 1669 in the hands of Charles Lord de la Warr, it is thus touchingly put, "And in the place, which by the inhabitants is called Wherwell, founded the Church of the Holy Cross, beseeching Christ, that He who, wounded on the (ever) memorable Cross, shed His blood for the redemption of the human race, might deign to grant her the pardon (purchased) by His death, His wounds, and by the shedding of His blood rich (in graces)."

Although in more than one passage of the chroniclers, Harewood, the forest in which Earl Æthelwold was murdered seems to be confused with Warewell, we may with confidence dismiss any doubt as to the site of Ælfrida's foundation, as it is with very remarkable repetition always described as the "place" called by the inhabitants Wharwell. Canon Isaac Taylor considers that the name probably means a well with a ewer or pitcher for drinking, akin to Kettlewell, and there is a spring near Dublin farm, which, it is supposed, may have been this drinking fountain of early days.

"In the year of our Lord 1002, the 15th of the Kalends of December, died the Lady Elfrida of pious memory, Queen of Edgar, the peaceable, formerly King of England," says the Chronicle in the Chartulary; and subsequently states: "The aforesaid King Ethelred, son of the said queen, endowed the same church, and augmented it with various possessions, and

with the agreement of blessed Dunstan, then Archbishop of Canterbury, and of St. Ethelwold, bishop of Winchester, instituted nuns in the aforenamed place of Wherwell that they might serve God there." The charter of King Ethelred II., here alluded to, is dated the year of his mother's death, and readily lends itself to the suggestion that it is dealing with property to which he would have had the reversion had it not been granted to the Church.

This document Dugdale prints from the Charter Roll 44, Henry III., n. 6, which monarch in his Inspeximus recites that the original document had become worn with age. Passing over a great deal of introductory matter, the part in which we are most interested begins,

> I, Æthelred, governor of the English people, and coregulus of the whole British island, and of the other islands in the adjacent parts, offer with most humble devotion to Christ and All Saints a certain noble convent with the vill round about connected with it, which the common people from the vicinity of a spring are aptly accustomed to call æt Werewell, with the little houses which are adjacent round about the before written place or vill, as we have said. The whole portion of both which collected equally into one quantity contains seventy manors. . . . And this I devoutly offer to the giver of all good gifts for a remedy of the souls of my father Eadgar, and my mother called Elfdryd, because she, while she lived, possessed it, and applied herself diligently to build it up. . . . And further . . . I add the gift of most pure devotion, assigning for the support of food and clothing of the holy nuns earnestly serving Christ—in the aforenamed monastery a certain other village situate in the province of the West Saxons, which the dwellers of the place call Edelingedeen of sixty cotlands, which the aforesaid queen, as long as she possessed a spark of life, kept for her own proper use. . . I commend the care of the directing of this to the Venerable Abbess Heanfled.

And after the names of the witnesses it is added—

> Twenty-nine messuages are in the city of Winchester laying apart in different places which profits by the aforesaid service belong to the monastery, and all outside remain without the demesne. . . . In the year of the Incarnation of our Lord 1008, and the thirty-fourth of my reign, I have added ten homesteads to wit, situate in the place usually called Bulandun, with all belongings, &c.

It is these endowments which afford the connecting interest of the story of Wherwell Abbey, for they are traceable during the whole of the existence of the monastery, and were in its possession when it was dissolved.

Domesday Book says, "The Abbey of Wherwell holds the whole village in which stands the Church, and always held it. . . The same Abbey holds Tockington (Tufton) and

always held it. . . The same Abbey holds Goodworth (Clatford) and always held it. . . The same Abbey holds Anne (Little) and always held it. . . The same Abbey holds Middleton (Longparish) and always held it. . . The same Abbey holds Bullandun (Bullington) and always held it.

"The same Abbey holds in the city of Winchester 31 messuages which are free from all customary charges, except the King's geld, of which the Abbess' own house is free. The value in the time of King Edward was 50s., and now 30s. In Winchester the Abbey had also a mill which pays 48s."

The Liber Winton enumerates the Winchester houses with their tenants and rents. They were situate in Flesmanger-stret, Scowitenstret, and Alwarnestret. These are now known, respectively, as St. Peter-street, Jewry-street, and Parchment-street.

Reckoning up the various classes on these six manors we find a total of 36 villeins, 48 borderers, 25 freemen (who were all in Wherwell), and 30 servants. The religious, of course, were not reckoned. In Wherwell there was wood for 25 hogs, and in Tufton and Ann there were copses for fences, while at Middleton there was a fishery for the use of the hall. The three mills still remain in existence.

It is surely not too bold a conjecture to suppose that this property which Ethelred II. confirmed to the monastery, and which certainly came to them from his mother Ælfrida, had come to her from her husband, King Edgar, whom, it is reasonable to infer, may have had it from his aunt Wenfleda, for according to John of Tinmouth she possessed a house at Wherwell, in which she entertained the King, and where her guests were "*royally*" attired at the feast. The statement that Earl Athelwold was owner of the forest is not reliable, and it is improbable that Ælfrida brought this land to her husband as dower. If Edgar's uncle, King Edred, who left the manor of Fugelerstune to St. Peter's, Winchester, should have been the husband of his aunt Wenfleda, it makes the disposal of the estate at once natural and complete. And then it is almost certain that the site of the monastery was originally that of (?) Queen Wenfleda's house, and if so, the stream which now runs murmuring through the beautiful grounds of the mansion so inappropriately called the "Priory," and indeed under part of the house itself (see plan),

"With here and there a lusty trout,"

may claim the additional interest of having afforded Wlfhilda the means of escape from Edgar's too importunate suit.

The fact of the Abbess being Lady of the Manor over so large an estate, must necessarily have involved an amount of business consideration, and brought with it responsibilities which submitted her capacity for administration to a great and continuous strain. We are, perhaps, too much accustomed to think of the "Religious houses" as *only* the peaceful abodes of contemplation and retirement, and forget the immense amount of business that of necessity devolved on them. We have in the case of Wherwell Abbey abundant illustration of the multitudinous engagements which must have fallen more or less directly to the share of the head of the house. We shall have to see her the guardian and shelterer of those in trouble and distress. There were the many "liberties" and privileges to preserve, in some cases, long and expensive law suits to carry on. There was the obligation of keeping abreast of the times with the renewals and confirmations of charters and grants, which the need and greed of successive Kings made a constantly recurring anxiety and expense. There were the markets, the fairs, and other "rights" to be maintained. There was the changing inseparable from a large number of tenants. There was the ever-ready hospitality to maintain for the travellers, through a sparsely populated and almost roadless country. All these, besides what we should call the ordinary duties of a land-owner, are experiences which are more and more difficult to realize as manorial rights and services fall into desuetude, and pass out of memory.

A very slight study of the compotus rolls of any considerable monastery will shew what was the position occupied by the religious houses as centres of life and activity.

The story of Wherwell Abbey brings in at least two remarkable instances of "Beauty and anguish walking hand-in-hand," for the convent had to provide refuge for two other queens renowned for their loveliness. The "Pearl of Normandy" as Duke Richard's daughter was called (known afterwards when the widow of two kings, Ethelred II. and Cnut, as Lady Ælfgivu Emma), sojourned involuntarily in the "custody" of the Abbess of Wherwell, when in A.D. 1043, the King Edward, her son, and his three great Earls' "came unawares

* Anglo-Saxon Chronicle. Annales Eccl., Winton. Angl. Sac., vol. 1, pp. 291, 292.

upon the Lady Emma and they bereaved her of all the treasures she possessed, and they were not to be told, because before she had been very hard with the King her son, inasmuch as she had done less for him than he would before he was King, and also since." Edward the Confessor also subsequently sent his own wife, the lovely and gentle Edith,* daughter of Earl Godwin, to Wherwell, where it would seem his sister was then abbess. Over the saintly lady Edith the chroniclers exhaust the language of commendation. Not only does Ingulph† enlarge on his personal memories of her sweetness of disposition and great learning, but whenever she is mentioned by any of them, it is always in the same strain. There seem to have been two common sayings about her :—

> As comes the rose from the thorn
> Came Edith from Godwin,
> Thus out of it was made a courteous verse
> Of which Clerks knew well the French.
> That is : Sicut spina rosam
> Genuit Godwinus Editham.

and the other :

> In rich and noble work
> Had no peer as far as Constantinople.

Edward's treatment of his gentle and beautiful queen seems to have been harsh, to say the least of it.‡ "Then put away the King, the lady who had been consecrated his queen, and caused to be taken from her all which she possessed in land and in gold, and in silver, and in all things and delivered her to his sister at Wherwell ;" another passage says, "And she was brought to Wherwell and they delivered her to the Abbess." Florence of Worcester adds that "The King sent her with one waiting-maid to Wherwell without honour, and committed her to the keeping of the Abbess." She could not however have remained very long, as her father, Earl Godwin, came back in 1052, and the Lady Edith returned to the palace which she adorned as much as she had done the cloister.

What may probably be a similar instance occurs in 1244, when§ "The Abbess of Wherwell is commanded to deliver Isabella the daughter of Roger de Akeni who is detained by the King in the same abbey to Mazzio de la Marr to be conducted where the King has ordered him."

* William of Malmesbury p. 185. † Ingulph Chronicle.
‡ Anglo-Saxon Chronicle. § Close Roll, 29 Henry III., m. 8.

King John in 1215 granted* "To the Abbess and nuns of Hwerewell that they may have a fair every year at Wherwell of four days' duration on the dedication of their church at Hwerewell." The church of the monastery was, as we have already seen, dedicated to the Holy Cross. The festival of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, the Anglo-Saxon Roodmas Day, the 14th of September, is kept in honour of the exposition of a portion of the Cross in the Basilica, erected at Jerusalem by the Empress Helena. The fair maintains its importance in the county, and is held on the 24th of September, which, as the old style is locally retained for all such reckonings, is the historic date.

Some indication of the need of a firm front in days of which it was true

> —— The good old rule
> Sufficeth them; the simple plan
> That they should take who have the power
> And they should keep who can,

is afforded by entries on the Close Rolls of the 6th, 7th, and 12th of Henry III. One of these, 1222-3, may be taken as a specimen :—

> The King to Michael de Columbar greeting, We command you that you allow the Abbess of Werewell to have her reasonable estovers in her wood of Harewood to wit, her bush and fire wood and house bot and hay bot as she has been accustomed to have in the time of King Richard our uncle and John our predecessor, nor are you to do or allow in this respect any molestation or grievance. Witness at Oxford by Bishop of Winchester.

The Abbess of course would have among her servants her dapifer or steward, and in a grant of William I. William the dapifer of the Abbess of Wherwell and Robert his brother occur as witnesses.

Henry III. in 1266 granted to the Abbess and her successors a weekly market to be held on Wednesdays. There is no trace of this now, nor indeed with our modern methods would there be any reason in retaining it. But remembering the stretch of country which was included in the manors of the Abbess, and the monopoly the Lord of the Manor possessed, this was doubtless for a long time a source of considerable profit.

The Patent Roll of 8 Richard II., A.D. 1384, preserves the

* Close Roll, 16 John.

memory of a remarkable right exercised by the Abbess. It appears that the King was petitioned to reverse the judgment of the Court of King's Bench against the Convent, under the following circumstances. The Abbey claimed that from time immemorial they had had the right to the goods of fugitives in their hundred of Mestowe. A certain Henry Harold of Wherwell killed Isabella, his wife, at Wherwell within the same hundred, by reason of which felony he fled to the Church of Wherwell, and the goods of the said Henry to the value of thirty-five pounds four shillings and eight pence were seized for the Abbess by Gilbert Joseph, then the reeve of the said Abbey, although at the time the Abbey was vacant (that is, there was no Abbess). The Court seemed to have held the proceeding illegal, but the King reversed their decision and confirmed the privilege.

The Chartulary, to which reference has been made, contains a very large number of documents relating to the property held and acquired by the Abbey. It is however thought better for considerations of space to pass by the whole subject of the possessions of the Monastery. It is interesting to notice that this MS. has on its first page the words and music of part of a hymn to the Virgin Mary which probably had formerly been used in the choir by the nuns themselves.

There are few incidents in the story of Wherwell Abbey, that find a place in history after the Norman Conquest. The holy quiet work of unostentatious love and duty went on through centuries with untold benefits to those living in the parts around, but making little mark on the wider world beyond. With the Conquest the Royal line ceased to have any personal associations with the neighbourhood, and ladies of local or other families occupied the position of Superior, which had once, at any rate, been held by the King's sister. The troubles of the kingdom however did not pass over without bringing their share to the usually peaceful dwellers in the valley of the Test. William of Malmsbury tells us during the contest between King Stephen and the Empress Maud :—

> The roads on every side of Winchester were watched by the Queen and the Earls who had come with her, lest the supplies should be brought in to those who had sworn fidelity to the Empress. The town of Andever also was burnt. . . . The abbey of nuns at Warewel was also burnt by one William de Ipres, an abandoned character who feared neither God nor man, because some of the partisans of the Empress had secured themselves within it.

In Mr. W. Money's History of Newbury, page 84, is the following note :—

In the course of constructing a new line from Hurstbourne Siding to Fullerton Junction by the South-Western Railway Company in the Autumn of 1883, eight human skeletons were unearthed at Wherwell. They were found very close together—about two feet below the surface —and they were probably the remains of soldiers who fell in this encounter between the troops of Stephen and Matilda.

A list of the Abbesses of Wherwell is given in Dugdale, to which some additions are here made :—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Heanfled was abbess in | | | 1002. |
| Hedda. | | | |
| Hœddi. | | | |
| The King's Sister was abbess in | | | 1051. |
| Matilda | „ | „ | 1207. |
| Euphemia | „ | „ | 1226. |
| Elene de Percy | „ | „ | 1282. |
| Isabella | „ | „ | 1300. |
| Maud Littleton | „ | „ | 1335. |
| Amitia Ladde | „ | „ | 1340. |
| Constantia de Wintreshall | „ | | 1361. |
| Joan Cotterell | „ | „ | 1361. |
| Cecilia Lavington | „ | „ | 1375. |
| Alice Parys | „ | „ | 1412. |
| Anne Quarley | „ | „ | 1451. |
| Alice Serle | „ | „ | 1452. |
| Julianna Overy | „ | „ | 1453. |
| Matilda Rowse | „ | „ | 1494. |
| Avelina or Aveton Cowdrey | „ | | 1518. |
| Anne Colta or Colte | „ | | 1529. |

Upon whose resignation

Morphuet or Morphet Kingsmill was elected 1536.

This lady was cousin to the last Prior of St. Swithun's and first Dean of the Cathedral, and sister of Sir John Kingsmill, one of the Commissioners for the Dissolution.

The surrender was on the 21st November, 1540. *The Abbess had a pension assigned to her of £40 a year. Alice Gifford, the Prioress, had £6, Margery Wright, the sub-Prioress, £5, Elizabeth Clerk, the "sexten," £4, Joan Mitchell £5, *Elizabeth Pickering £4, Agnes Sybell, Joan Emley, Joan Lucas, *Mary Inkpen, Joice Harte, Alice Harward, *Elizabeth Perchar, Mary Erneley, *Agnes Hardinge, Mary Willoughby, *Agnes Holte, *Margaret Asshe, and Elizabeth Tomlyn had each a pension assigned them of £3 6s. 8d.; while *Murphet Vine, *Joan Mate, *Joan Woodlock, *Elizabeth Foster, *Elizabeth Hacker, and

*Joan Dolling had £2 13s. 4d. per annum. These pensions absorbed £123 6s. 8d., and the account is closed with the statement "an soo remayneth clere £229 12s. 0½d." Those pensioners marked * were still in receipt of their pensions 2 and 3 Philip and Mary, 1555—6. The account says there were no jewels, and no ornaments "reserved to the use of the King's M'gestie," but of plate "reserved to the same use" there was "silver gilt 202½ oz., silver parcel gilt 87 oz., silver white 623 oz., a total of 912½ oz."

The sum of all the ornaments, goods, and cattales there founden belonging to the said monastery sold by the said comyssioners as publicly apperith in the books of the sale thereof made and redy to be showed iiij$^{xx}$ xv$^{li}$ xxiii$^{d}$ whereof in payments to the late religious and servents despatched To vij of the late said religious of the saide late monastery of the King's ma$^{ties}$ reward viz. to iiij every of them and xl$^{s}$ to iiij every of them xx$^{s}$ x$^{l}$.

To xlviij parsons being chapleynes, officers, and s'v$^{ts}$ of the said late monastery for their wages and liueries xxv$^{li}$ iii. Of dettes owing by the seyd late m'stery to di'use p'sons as well of the citie of Winchester, as of the same town of Wherwell for money owing to them for victualles and other necessaries bought and hadd to the use of the said late house xvi$^{li}$ xviii$^{s}$ ij$^{d}$, and soo remayneth clere xliij$^{s}$ ix$^{d}$. Debtes owing to the seid late mo'stery—none. To the same by S$^{r}$ John Burley Clerk p'son of Mildeston for the costs expensis and charges by the late Abbes and convent susteyned in the s'puall laws by the wrongful vexation of the said p'son as by decree made by Docter Cockes therein judge under the bissops of Canterbury now pleynlie may appear xj$^{li}$.

Speed gives the value of the endowments at the time of the suppression as £403 12s. 10d., Dugdale as £339 8s. 7d. Of the annuities and pensions mentioned above to others than nuns, William, Marquis of Winchester, High Steward, had £6 per annum, Richard Taylor, clerk, £4, John Cooke £1 6s. 8d., and Christopher Browne £2. The Commissioners were Robert Southwell, John London, John Kyngesmill, Richard Powlett, and William Berners.

The mention of the "religious and servants dispatched" suggests some sad reflections, but the accounts we have of the buildings are especially valuable in enabling us to form some conjecture as to their situation, because no plans or views have been yet found, and there is therefore very little to show what the Abbey looked like.

It must be noticed first that the Parish Church of Holy Cross and S. Peter was pulled down and rebuilt in 1858. The old building is stated to have been repaired after the Reformation with the best portions of the Abbey ruins. "It

had a chapel which was appropriated to the 'Priory' as a pew, and which had a separate special entrance." There is no tradition of any other church, and it is conjectured that the same "church" (the term, it will be observed, used of the whole monastery in Domesday) served both for the monastery and the parish, with presumably a chapel for parochial services as at Romsey. In the inventory we have the following account:—

Houses and Buildings assigned to remayn. The late Abbess lodging w$^{t}$ the houses w$^{t}$ in the Quadraunte, as the water leadeth from the east side of the Cloister to the gate. The ffarmery, the mylle, and Millhous w$^{h}$ the slaughter house adjoining, the bruinge and baking houses w$^{t}$ the granaries, to the same, the barne and stabulles in the utter courte. Possess$^{n}$ thereof delyured to the Lord de la Warr, by force of Mr. Chauncellors lt$^{rs}$.

Deemed to be superfluous:—The church quyer and steple couered w$^{h}$ leade, the cloister couered w$^{h}$ tyles, and centre gutters of leade, the chapiter house, ffrayter dormitory conuent kitchen, and all the olde lodgings between the granarie and the hall dore, couered with tyles. Commyted to the custodye of the Lord de la Warr to the use of the King's ma$^{tie}$.

Lead remayning upon the houses aforesaid x fodders. Bells remayning in the stepel there v. poiz by estiac v$^{m}$ vij$^{c}$ weight.

The number of bells is the same as at present.

Nothing more can be said about the old church, for with the exception of some fragments of mouldings and one monumental effigy, and parts of two monuments, there are absolutely no traces of it. The present house (the Priory) was built about the time of Charles I., and, as has been mentioned, stands partly *over* a stream, which runs beneath the drawing room and issues at the back of the house under an archway of older workmanship than the rest of the wall. The stream is conjectured to be the moat round (?) Queen Wenfleda's house. It derives its supply of water through a double cutting made in a south-easterly direction to a higher reach of the Test. The burial ground was certainly north of the present house, and nearer the church, and it is probable the "Abbess's lodging" was much more in the centre of the Quadrangle, which is still nearly completely surrounded by the moat except on the side towards the church; and it is very easy to see how the cloister might connect the conventual buildings with the church, having "the water leading from its east side to the gate," supposing the gate to be where the road formerly ran to join the Winchester 'turnpike.' The site of the slaughter house which was pulled down about

15 years ago is close to the stables, which have some very massive old timbers in them, and are, in all probability, on the old site in what still forms an "outer court." The mill and mill house are probably where they always were. The monument, erroneously stated in White's "Hampshire" to be in the Winchester museum, was dug up in the churchyard; it is in a mutilated condition, and now placed in the churchyard wall grouped with other fragments which have nothing whatever to do with it. It represents an abbess, possibly about the time of Joan Cotterill or Cecilia Lavington. A rude, and probably early, stone coffin is in the churchyard, and two coffin lids in the Priory grounds.

The "prebend" or vicarage of Wherwell appears always to have been in the hands of the monastery. The site of the Abbey was granted 31 Henry VIII. to Sir Thomas West, Lord de la Warr, who exchanged it for an estate called Halfnaked Park in Sussex, and the property has come down through the families of Cutler, Cutler Boulter, and Fryer, to that of Iremonger in whom it is now vested.

This confessedly very imperfect notice may conclude with the transcript of an inscription placed in the "Priory" wall, the actual date of which, however, like its statements, is questionable.

Anno Dom 1649

Here was the Monastery of Wherwell. Erected by Queene Ethelred. Demolished by the overacted zeale or avarice of King Henry, and of its last ruines here buried there yet remains this his monument.

## Part II.

The old order changeth, yielding place to new.
*The Passing of Arthur.*

The actual day on which the old order at Wherwell yielded place to new was the 21st November, 1540. But this change did not all at once work smoothly here any more than it did elsewhere. It must be remembered that the village and manor of Wherwell as well as a considerable tract of the surrounding country, stood in much closer relationship to the Lady Abbess than merely that of neighbours. She was their head as Lady of the Manor, and in her, as such, centred most of the business concerns of the everyday life of the inhabitants, and for nearly six centuries she had been the owner of the soil and the chief employer of labour, whilst that benevolent aid and hospitality which was an essential of the life of the community in which she ruled, reached her dependants and neighbours first, and benefited them unceasingly.

How terribly the change involved in the suppression of the monasteries was felt throughout the country is shown by a petition presented at the time to the King.

> Great hurt and decay is thereby come, and hereafter shall come to this your realm, and great impoverishment of many your poor obedient subjects, for lack of hospitality and good householding which was in them to be kept, to the great relief of the poor people of all the country adjoining to the said monasteries, besides the maintenance of many servants, husbandmen, and labourers that daily were kept in the said religious houses.—[Gasquet's Henry VIII. and the English Monasteries.]

Nor, indeed, was even the transfer of the property itself completed, without much bickering and consequent delay and irritation, which were injurious to the last degree, affecting not only the tenants on the manors, but also all that numerous class who in one way or another derived their employment and support from the Convent.

The reader is referred to Canon Gasquet's exhaustive book for a full and perfectly fair and accurate account of this violent confiscation and its attendant results. Speaking in general terms Wherwell Abbey seems to have been a typical

case, but with this much in its favour, that it had all the protection the honourable and influential family of Kyngesmill could secure for it. The last Abbess was Morphuet Kyngesmill, whose cousin was the last Prior and first Dean of St. Swithun, Winchester. Her father was Sir John Kyngesmill, of Basingstoke, Justice of Common Pleas, who died 1509. And her brother was Sir John Kyngesmill of Sydmonton, who died 1556, and is buried at Kingsclere. He was one of the Commissioners for the Dissolution. It is but fair to assume that he did his best for his sister and the nuns in her charge. And there does not seem to be any indication of the harsh treatment and vindictive cruelty which in far too many cases accompanied the confiscation.

That the family of the Kyngesmills had foreseen the bursting of the storm is evident; and they had doubtless laid their plans accordingly, but there is much to show that this convent found consideration in the hour when it was most needed, and that, as far as it was possible, they befriended the religious.

While the estates of the Monasteries were being "caught up in the market" and their purchase prospectively arranged for, Commissioner Kyngesmill kept his eye on Wherwell, as is shown by a passage in Thomas Cromwell's note book.

> Item to remember Warren for a monastery, Mr. Gostyke for a monastery, John Freeman for Spalding, Mr. Kingsmill for Wherwell, myself for Laund. Item to remember to know the true value of the goods of Castle Acre for my part thereof.

Mr. Kyngesmill, however, did not get Wherwell Abbey, nor any of its property, for which more than one had been on the look out.

It was sold to Sir Thomas West, Lord de la Warr, and the deed by which it passed to him will be found on the Patent Roll 31, Henry VIII. (1540). It recites that by a "certain indenture bearing date 3 March, 31 of our reign, between us of the first part and the aforesaid Lord la Warr and Lady Elizabeth his wife on the other part, they had bargained and sold to us and our heirs the Manor or Lordship of Halfnaked and Watterton in the county of Sussex with Halfnaked Park, Goodwood Park, &c.," and proceeds,

> Know ye that we in consideration * * * have given and granted * * * to Sir Thomas West Lord la Warr and Lady Elizabeth his wife the site and precincts of the late monastery of Wherewell otherwise called Wherwell in our county of Southampton lately dissolved,

together with all and singular houses, stables, structures, dovecotes, &c., &c., within the site and precincts of the late Monastery. And all that water mill and thirty acres of land and several water in Wherewell formerly parcell of the possessions of the late monastery, and formerly being in the hands of the last Abbess for the use of the said late monastery. And also the manors or Lordships of Wherewell, Westover, Middleton, Totyngton (Tufton), Bolynton Good, otherwise Goodworth Clatford and Little Ann, with the appurtenances, parcell of the possessions, profits or hereditaments of the said late monastery, and all that prebend of Good otherwise Goodworth, &c. And the advowson of the parish church of Wherewell formerly belonging to the late monastery. And all woods, &c. And all that wood called Harewood, containing by estimation 660 acres * * * And all that messuage, &c., called Jayes, formerly in the occupation of a certain Richard Burley with all, &c., &c., in as ample manner and form as the last Abbess * * * To be held of us and our successors in capite for a fifth part of a Knight's service, yielding and paying to the Augmentation Office £137 3s. 8d. a year.

Sir Thomas West would seem then to have paid a considerable sum for the site of Wherwell and its manors and advowsons. But curiously enough some of the property thus conveyed to him was sold over again to someone else. The calm serenity with which the mistake is rectified will be best seen from another document.

Memorandum. Whereas the King's highness by his graces patent under his great seal of England for the sum of forty pounds and eleven shillings amongst other things bargained, sold and granted unto John Gyers, Esquire, to his heirs and assigns, the advowson gift and patronage of the prebend and parsonage of Whorwell, in the county of Southampton, And whereas also a long time before the bargaine sale and grant of the said advowson to the said John Gyers in form aforesaid, our said Sovereign Lord the King gave and granted the same advowson to the Lord De La Warr to his heirs and assigns for ever, by reason whereof the said bargain sale and grant of the said advowson and patronage of the said prebend and patronage made to the said John Gyers in form aforesaid is void and of none effect, by reason whereof the said John Gyers in reason and conscience ought to be recompensed by the King's highness of the said fourty pounds and eleven shillings which the said John hath paid to the King's highness for the purchase of the said advowson in forme aforesaid. In consequence whereof it is ordered and decreed by the Chancellor and Counsell of the Court of Augmentations of the revenues of our Sovereign Lord the King on the xxth daye of August in the xxxvjth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord Henry the eighth by the grace of God Kyng of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faithe, &c., that the said John Gyers in recompense of the said money paid by him for the purchase of the said advowson in forme aforesaid shall have of the King's highness the sum of fourty foure pounds and eleven shillings to be paid to him immediately upon the makyng of the decree by those of the treasury of the said courte of the Augmentations of the revenues

of our Soveraigne Lord the Kynge's Crown of such his Grace's treasury of the same revenues as remaynceth in the hand of the said treasurer, and this decree shall be to the said treasurer a sufficient warrant and discharge in that behaulf.—[Augmentation Office Decrees and Orders.]

In order to make our story plain we must refer to an abridged pedigree of West, Lord la Warr.—*See Appendix.*

It is almost certain that the Lord la Warr who purchased it did not himself reside at Wherwell, and his half-brother, Sir George West, was dead before the suppression of the house, but another half-brother, Sir Owen West, who married Mary, daughter of Sir George Guildford, of Hempstead Place, Kent, in all probability lived there and was buried in the church.

On the remains of an altar tomb or tombs now built in the wall dividing the churchyard and the vicarage are the inscriptions—

"*Of your charite pray for the sooles of Sir Owen Weste, Knight, and Mary his wyffe who died.*"

"*The whiche died the* 18 *day of iuly, anno domino* 1551."

This last unquestionably refers to Sir Owen West, whose will is given in the appendix.

There is a strong probability that Wherwell may have been made the jointure house. There are inscriptions in the present church, removed from the old building, to John, son of Henry, Lord la Warr, 1656, and Mary, first wife of Charles, son of Charles, 5th Lord la Warr.

At west end of nave of present church :—

This stone is trusted with ye precious ashes and memory of ye
honourable Mrs. Mary West,
sole daughter of Ferdinando Huddleston, Esq., of Milton Castle, in
Cumberland,
and married unto Charles West.
Her Rare piety made her life innocent and taught her to be a
good daughter and an excellent wife
till she dyed in ye Flourish of her youth and Virtues.
Vita nostra est Instar fluminis quod currit ad mare Mortis.

East end.

Here lyeth the Body of the Hon. John West, 3rd Son of
The Lord La Warr, who died a childe ye 5th yeare of his age.
1656.
Reader shed a teare for ye losse of soe much innocency.

For the sake of continuity we have followed up the "new order" of things at Wherwell first. But there are some

further particulars to be considered of that "old order" which had to give place. The will of the last Abbess of Wherwell preserved in the Consistorial Court at Winchester affords a touching insight into the life of the scattered members of the community, and a valuable link with the past. It is here given in full.

Jhesus.

The last daye of March, ano. xij., Elizabeth Regine.

In ye name of God amen, I Morvethe Kynesmell, late Abbese of ye Monastery of Wherwell, doe make thes my last will and testament in this man'r and forme followinge. First I bequethe my sole to Almightye God, my onely maker and Redemer, and my body to be buried within ye churche at what plase my frends shall thynk 'good. Item, I geve to ye mother churche in Winchester vijs. Item, to Wherwell goodworthe Longparysh, bolingdon and to lynton to yevery of them ijs. Item, I geve to my Lady Kyngesmell my sister a counter table. Item, I geve to Mrs. pekeryng a fetherbedde, a fetherbolster, a pelow, a payer of fusten blankets, a fyne payer of schetes, a pelowber, a coverlet of darnex, a carpet cusshen. Item, I geve to Jane Woodloke a fether-bedd, a fether bolster, a pelow, a payer of wollen blankets, a payer of schets, a cove'let, a twinye casset, and a petycotte. Item, I gave to Morvethe Vyne a flockebedde, a fetherbolster, a payer of blankets, a payer of schets. Item, I geve to Jone mate a carpet cusshen with a payer of schets. Item, I geve to Elysabeth hacker, now Edmond Bathe's wife, my best worsted casset and a carpet cusshen. Item, I geve to Jone Dolinge a payer of schets, a smoke, a fyne vayle. Item, I geve to Jane pink a payer of schets. Item, I gave to Goodwyf Skeyle my second casset, a payer of schets, a payer of blankets and a pelow. Item, I geve to Allys Skeyle, my mayd, a pott, a ketell, a table cloth, ij platters, ij potengers, a petycote, a canstyke, a coffer. Item, I geve to Morveth Skeyle a skyllet, a platter, a potenger, a canstyke, a pott, a ketell, a coffer, all ye resydue of my goods not geven ne bequethed I geve and bequeth to Elysabethe foster whoe I make my sole executrix to dysspose for my soles helth as she thynke good thes being wytnesses John Hents, Edmond Bathe, George Stronge, Jhone Woodeforde with other as Nicholas Wythers.

by me MORVETHE

KYNGESMELL.

Proved at Winchester 1570 in the Consistory Court.

The inventory of all suche goods as mrs. morveth Kyngesmell late religius at Wherwell praysed by Jhon woodford, Edmond bathe, and George stronge.

Imp'mis in ye hall a square table, ij gyned stoles, ij andreas, one chayer ... ... ... ... ... iiijs.

in ye parler.

It., a foldinge table, a forme, a coberd, a payer of andears, a fier peke ... ... ... ... ... ... xlis.

In ye buttre.

It., iiij vyrkens, seaven canstykes, ij saltes of pewter, ij drynkyng cuppes, ij dosen trenchers ... ... ... vij*s.*

in ye chamber.

It. iiij fetherbedds, one flockbedde ... ... ... iiij*l.*
It., a payer of fusten blankets, iij payer of wollen blankets. iiij fether bolsters, one flockboster ... ... ... xx*s.*
It., iiij pelows of fethers, viij payer of schets ... ... iii*l.*
It., vj coverlets, iiij pelowbers ... ... ... ... x*l.* vj*s.* viij*d.*
It., vj cofers, one joined bedsted and a truclebedd, and a playne bedsted, and one forme ... ... ... ... xxxiij*s.* iiij*d.*
It., a tester of dernex with curtens to ye same ... ... vj*s.* viij*d.*
It., ye hanyng of ye chamber of red and grene ... ... vj*s.* viiij*d.*
It., ij chayers being turned, ij close stoles ... ... ij*s.*
It., vj carpet cusshens and iiij other cushens ... ... xiiij*s.*
It., ij carpets of dernex for a table ... ... ... viij*s.*
It., iiij bankers of rede, a payer of dogges for ye chemney, a payer of tonges, a fyer pan ... ... ... ... vj*s.*
It., a lytell cassett ... .. ... ... ... ... ij*s.*
It., a worsted casset, iij other cassets of clothe, ij petycots, ij fore partes of worsted ... ... ... ... v*l.*
It., a hode, ij lettes cappes, v smokes, one vayle of holonde, another of sorrane, ij benegrases of velvet ... ... xvij*s.*
It., v table clothes, xviij table napkens ... ... ... xiiij*s.*
It., iiij hand-towells, one tester of grene saye and curtens of ye same ... ... ... ... ... ... iiij*s.*
It., smale lenyn as parkelets and voresleves of every sort xij*s.*
Other smale thynges ... ... ... ... ... xx*s.*
It., iij fyne napkens, a smale overhose ... ... ... viij*s.*

in ye kechyn,

It.. iiij brasse potts, iij skylets, a chaser, iiij ketelse, ij dreping panse, a fryingepan, a chafyndyse, a gryddier, ij pothokes, a pappa and a skymmer, ij chenerse, a chopping knyfe, ij ladelse, ij chamber potts ... ... xl*s.*
It., xiij platers, xij potengers, ix sawsers, vj savoyn dysshes, v plats, ij basons a peuter boll, a dosen of alkems sponys ... ... ... ... ... xxx*s.*
It., iij brochys, ij verkys, a bruyng vatte, a yonting vatt, ij trens with v lytell trens, ij bokyng tobbes a trevet. . xiij*s.* iiij*d.*
It., ij lode of wood ... ... ... ... ... ... iiii*s.*
It., ij lytell barron pyggs ... ... ... ... ... vj*s.* viij*d.*
It., a sylt, ij kneding kewers, a boultinge wyche, ij meletobbes, ij keyves, a clauseve, iiij sakes ... viij*s.*
It., a stone morter, a pondeying tobb and other irene things ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ij*s.*
It., a save ... ... ... ... ... ... ... xij*d.*
It., old yron ... ... ... ... ... ... ... xx*d.*
It., a hogg of bacon, one salt syshe ... ... ... vj*s.* viii*d.*
It., ij bulters, a syre ... ... ... ... ... xvj*d.*
It., a pencon due to her from the prince at or lady day Ano. R. 7° ... ... ... ... ... ... xx*li.*
Suma totalis ... ... ... ... ... l*li.* xij*s.*

Morphuet Kyngesmill's place in the family of that name will be seen from the abridged pedigree given in the appendix.

Of the legatees in her will Mistress Pickering, Joan Woodlock, and Morveth Vyne had been nuns at Wherwell, and of that community only one, Elizabeth Hacker, who was probably not professed at the time of the dissolution, had married. In the twenty-seven years that had elapsed since they were ejected from their common home, it is very probable that several of the older sisters had entered into their rest. We miss the names of Alice Gifford, the Prioress, Margery Wright, the sub-prioress, Elizabeth Clerk, "the sexten," Joan Mitchell, Agnes Sybell, Joan Lucas, Joan Emly, Joice Hart, Elizabeth Tomlyn and Alice Haward, and, as in 1555, these were not drawing their pensions as the others were, there is a strong presumption that they were not alive. Of those nuns who were then living, Abbess Kyngesmill does not mention Joan Dolling, Joan Mate, Margaret Asshe, Mary Willoughby, Agnes Harding and Mary Inkpen.

It may be that the names of some others will be traced in some like incidental way, but in general terms we may conclude that we thus see the final "changing" of the old order, and the passing away of those who had taken their part in its tranquil past.

But the name of Nicholas Withers introduces another change of order. Sad and mournful like the last, and like that too, shewing the traces of stern tyranny and consequent suffering.

Nicholas Withers was the occupant of the manor of Middleton, in the parish which now goes by the descriptive name of "Longparish." He held the manor under the Abbess and Convent of Wherwell, and died, I think, a very old man in 1664. Sir Thomas West who died in 1628 granted to him a lease for his own life, the life of his wife Jane, and that of their eldest son Nicholas, at a rental of £15, of "all that capital messuage and farme of the manor of Middleton."—*Royalist Composition Papers.*

In the Royalist Composition Papers we find the significant entry "Nicholas Withers of Longparish, Gent., sequestered at Mich'as, 1645 for delinquency, his estate lying there." It does not state what his fine was, nor have we very much more information as to the family to which they belonged. I am indebted to the Rev. R. P. Wilkinson, Vicar of Long-

parish, for the extracts from the Longparish Register which are given in the appendix. Whether this family were connected with the family of Wither, of Manydown, is not shewn by any evidences I have met with.

Another painful evidence of the hardness which accompanied the change from the old order to the new during the great rebellion is founded in the sequestration of Sir Edward Nicholas, who apparently held the great tithes and other emoluments of the Prebend of Wherwell which for centuries had belonged to the Abbey, but as we have seen had been sold to John Gyers after having been previously sold to Sir Thos. West.

In the same list of the sequestered, the entry runs.

Sir Edw. Nicholas, Knt., secretary to the late Kinge, sequestered ye same time for delinquency, his estate being ye Rectory of Wherwell.

The Local Commissioners having as we should describe it advertised the " farm" of, I presume, the tithes and glebe, including apparently the water mill, 30 acres of land and annual rental, which in 1544-1545 brought to the crown which had confiscated them a total sum of £137 3s. 8d., found themselves in a difficulty in accepting the highest tender, which exceeded that of the occupying tenants by only fifteen shillings.— [Aug. Office Misc. Books, 446.]

They thereupon sent a statement of the case to the General Commissioners then sitting at Haberdashers Hall, with the result that the then tenant was confirmed in his holding, a profit of twelve shillings a year, however, being made of his misfortune. The paper is interesting enough to be given entire.—*Royalist Composition Papers, vol. cvii., 593.*

Gentlemen,

Haveinge duly posted the farme of Longparish, the estate of Sr Edward Nicholas, Knight and under sequestracon for his delinquency where unto Leonard Greene and William Thornborough, gent., are p'sent tenants. And this day breakings upp the proposals of such as desired to be tenants to the same farme the bearer hereof, Mr. Green, bids for the same one hundred and thirtie pounds five shillings per ann. cleere of all taxes. And one Thomas Webb, of Porton, in the countie of Wilts, bide for the same farme one hundred thirtie and one pounds per ann. clere of all taxes for seaven years. Soe that wee accordinge to our instruc'cons have agreed to take for tente the said Thomas Webb as biddinge the greater rent. But att the importunity of Mr. Greene beinge tennant in possession and haveinge been in actual arms for the Parliament wee thought fitt to state and p'sent the case unto yr honrs it being some

whart hard for him to be putt to such a losse and expense in remove of his stoke if not altogether unprovided for the dispose thereof when the advance to the publicke interest is noe more than fifteen shillings per ann. And the which he is likewise reddy to make good in case he may be admitted thereto, but finding no libertie or power left in us otherwise than to persue or instruccons wee must leave him vnto yor honors which being all at present wee take or leaves and rest.

Yor Servants,
Tho. Muspratt,
Jo. Champion,
Edward Hooker.

Winton, the 5th of Julli, 1651.

*Written in another hand,*

8° July, 1651.

The souldr to have it paying 12s. a year more than the other hav bid in respect of his services for the P. & this not to be a precedent for the future.

*Endorsed.*

South'ton
Nicholas, Sr Edward,
Greene, Leonard,
Thornborough, Wm.,

Hamp.
farme of Longp'sh
to Mr. Greene,
5° July, 1651.
answd.

To the honble the Commissioners for Sequestracons sitting att Haberdashers Hall these present.

Once more we have an instance of how it was when the "old order changeth giving place to new," and the clergy were turned out of their churches and their benefices and the Puritan preachers intruded.

It has been already told that the parish church was almost certainly a part of the church of the monastery. The "quire" had been "deemed superfluous" and destroyed, but the nave, or part of it, had been left to meet the wants of the parish. The history of the whole parish is in fact comprised in that of the Abbey, and the "Prebend" seems to have been almost as one of the staff of the convent. I am not aware that anything like a complete list of the incumbents has been compiled nor can I contribute much toward it. The chartulary enables us to say that in the time of Abbess Euphemia (1226) an agreement was concluded between the Abbess and Master Alberic, canon of the church, concerning taking estovers in Harewood, and three agreements were arrived at subsequently with the prebendary of Wherwell as

to what he should receive a year. But when the old order yielded place to the new this is the way the matter was concluded.—*Royalist Composition Papers Series.*

To such person or persons as are authorised to pay any augmentation formerly settled upon any preaching minister.

The Commissioners appointed by an ordinance of his highness the Lord Protector with the advice of his councell for the approbation of publique preachers, doe in pursuance of the said ordinance approve of Mr. Edw. Bentall, of Tuckington Chapple, to Wherwell, in the county of South'ton, to be a person qualified to preach the Gospell as in and by the said ordinance is required and therefore fitt to receive such augmentation as hath been formerly settled upon him or ye place where he preacheth. These are therefore to signify unto you that you are thereby required and authorised to pay to the said Edward Benthall whatsoever by vertue of any order, ordinance, or Act of Parliament, or authority derived, there is or shall be due upon that accompt. And his acquittance being taken for ye same shall be your sufficient discharge. In testimony whereof they have caused this approbation to be entered and signed by the register there unto appointed.

Dated at Whitehall the 3d day of Novemr, Ann 1654.

Jo. Nye, Regr.

Edw. Bentall, gent., maketh oath yt he recd the above written certificate from the hands of Mr. Nye, Rgr., to the above said Com.

Sworn before the Com. 3 Nov., 1654, B.W.

Edward Bentall.

And so, for the present we must leave the story, thankfully mindful of how it has yet again come to pass, that those evil days of trouble and disturbance have given way to times of tranquility and active and benevolent progress, and the new order with the parochial system of the Church in full swing, and the beneficent influence of keen interest and kindly solicitude springing from the sense of responsibility on the part of the "great house" is productive of greater happiness and more complete freedom than when the Lady Abbess was paramount over all.

There is yet very much more to be told, which if opportunity should ever serve will best be treated of in a separate chapter. The chartulary alone would supply ample materials for another part, and if, with that for a basis, the descent of the lands formerly held by the Abbess were traced, something would be accomplished towards the history of a large tract of the county of which so very little has been written. Mean-

time it is but just to acknowledge the obligation of all who value historical enquiry whether in topographical or other branches of the study, to "Hampshire Notes and Queries," for without some such medium by which information could be gathered and imparted line upon line, here a little and there a little, it would be almost impossible to publish the histories of our rural parishes with that fullness of detail which modern science requires.

## APPENDIX.

The following original papers and extracts go to shew the effect of the suppression of the Abbey on the tenants and unemployed.

*Augmentation office. Decrees and orders, vol. iv., fo. 61 b.*

Be it remembered that in Hilary term, to wit on the eleventh day of February in the thirty-first year of the reign of King Henry the eighth, Richard Burleghe came into the court of the said Lord King of the Augmentation of the revenues of his crown and brought there a certain writing made and sealed under the conventual seal of the late monastery of Wherwell in the county of Southampton lately dissolved, and prayed that it might be allowed, the tenor of which writing follows in these words:—To all christen people to whome this p'sent writing shall come, Morwythe Kyngesmyll Abbes of the house and churche of the holy rode of Wherwell in the county of South' and the conuent of the same place, send greeting in oure lorde god eu'lasting. Know ye us the said Abbes and conuent for the good and faithful s'uice that Richard Burleigh of Mydleton, in the saide countie, hath done and dayle contendithe to doo to us and to our monasterye of Wherwell, aforesayde, by our hole assent and consent have geuen and grantid and by thes p'sents do geue and graunte to the saide Richarde Burleigh the office of the clerkshipe of all the lordshippes, manours, landes, and ten'tis to our saide Monastery of Wherwell, apperteynynge and belonginge to holde and kepe all and singuler our lawdays and courtes of all our mannors, lands, and ten'tis aforesaide as ofte as need shall require. To haue occupie and exercise the said office of the clerkshype unto the saide Richard burleghe by him or by his sufficient deputye for the time of the lyffe of the said Richard takyinge and per ceynynge for the office aforesaide in forme aforesaid occupynge exercysynge of us and our successors yercley foure pounds sixteen shillings and eightpence sterling, to be paid to the saide Richard at too feastis in the year, that is to saye at the ffeaste of thannunciacon of our blessyd laydie the virgin and Saint Michell the archangell, by equal porcons wt all other profittes, comodyties, and emoluments belongynge to the saide office or anny other, the same office hauinge or execysinge before this tyme haue hadd or accustomed to haue by thandes of us our receyours fermers reves or

collectors and of our successors for the tyme beynge. And yf it happen the saide foure pounds sixteen shillings and eightpence or eny pte thereof to be behynde and not payed in manner and forme aforesaide by the space of one moneth after any of the feastss, of payment aforesaide, that then it shall be leyfull to the saide Richard burlegh by v'tue of this our wrytynge into our maner of goodworth in the county aforesaide to enter and distrene, and the' destresses so ther takyn to dryve, leade, and carry away, and the same to witholde vnto suche tyme as the saide foure poundes syxteen shillings and eightpence, and the arrearages yf any be to the saide Richard burleghe be fully satisffied, contented and payed, wherefore we command and shaytleye charge as well the auditors of our accompts for the tyme beynge that the payment of the saide foure poundes syxteene shillings and eightpens to the saide Richarde for the occupynge and exercysynge of the office aforesaid in form aforesaide graunted in the accompt of our receyuor or in the accompt of our farmer and collector of our manor of Goodworth aforesaide for the tyme beynge from tyme to tyme yerely to theyme due allowances and discharge, make as to all and singler bayls, fermers and all other our tenants and inhabitants within our lordships and manners aforesaid, that vnto the said Richarde in execution and exercisinge of his saide office be helping and assistynge in all things as it shalbe lawful. In witness whereof to this present our wrytynge we the said Abesse and convent haue putt our convent seale. Datt in oure chapiter house at Wherwell aforesaid the twelueth day of January the twenty and eight yere of the reigne of our Sou'aigne lord Kynge Henry the eight. *And because on examination it seems to the aforesaid court that the writing and seal are bonafide, it is by the Chancellor and Council allowed, and they decree that Richard Burlegh in full recompense and satisfaction have for the term of his life an annuity of six pounds thirteen and fourpence and arrears.*

Augumentation Office, Henry VIII., Decrees and Orders, vol. 14, fo. 55.

*Extract.* 10 June 36, Henry VIII. Christofer Brown comes into the court and brings a certain writing under the conventual seal of the manastery of Wherwell lately dissolved . . and prays that it may be dissolved. . . . Morphet Kyngesmyll Abbess, &c., know ye that we, &c., have granted to our servant Christofer Brown an annuity or annual rent of forty shillings issuing out of all our lands and tenements in Wherwell for the term of his life recoverable by distraint on all our lands. Given in our chapter house 2 Oct., 30 Henry VIII.

Allowed by Chancellor and Council, 40 shillings a year decreed to Christofer Brown.

## Abridged Pedigree of West Lord De La Warr.

Arms: *Argent a fess Dancette sable.*

Sir Reginald West Lord La Warr in right of his mother who was sister and heir to Thomas Lord La Warr, married Eleanor, 2nd daughter of Henry, Earl of Northumberland. He died 27 August 1451, leaving

Sir Richard West Lord La Warr, his son and heir (19 years old at his father's death) who married Catherine, daughter of Robert Lord Hungerford and died 10 March, 1475, leaving

Sir Thomas West Lord La Warr, made Knight Banneret at the battle of the Spurs. He died 12 Feb., 1525, and is buried at Broadwater, Sussex. This Lord was twice married. His first wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Hugh Mortimore, by whom he had two sons (Sir) Thomas (his heir and successor) and William. By his second wife Eleanor, daughter of Sir Roger Copley, of Gatton co. Sussex, he had (Sir) George and (Sir) Owen (*)

Sir Thomas West, Knt. and Banneret, Lord La Warr, K.G., son of the last Lord by his first wife. He signed the letter to Pope Clement VII. about the divorce of Queen Catherine. He obtained the Grant to Wherwell Abbey.

Having no issue of his own body and his own brother William predeceasing him without issue, he took William, son of his half brother Sir George West (who died in 1538) his next heir "and bred him up in his own house. But he, not content to stay till his uncle's death, prepared poison to despatch him, which being discovered, upon complaint thereof in Parliament, he procured a special act to attaint him so that he might not be capable to inherit." He died 1554. His will proved P.C.C. 1554 (see Appendix III.) and notwithstanding the Act of Parliament was succeeded by his nephew by the half-blood.

Sir William West, dubbed Knight at Hampton Court, 1569. He obtained a new creation to the title. Was at the siege of St. Quentins in Picardy. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Strange, of Chesterton, and died in 1595. He had issue five sons, Walsingham, Robert, John and Nathaniel, who died before him and was succeeded by his son

Sir Thomas West Lord La Warr, dubbed Knight, 1587, who married Anne, daughter of Sir Francis Knolles, K.G., by whom he had two sons Robert, who married the daughter of Sir Henry Cook and

Sir Thomas West Lord La Warr, who succeeded in 1609, made Captain General of all the Colonies in Virginia, but died on his voyage. He married Cecilie (*) daughter of Sir Thomas Shirley, Kt., who was buried at Wherwell 31 July, 1662. He was succeeded by his son

Henry West Lord La Warr, who married Isabel, daughter of Sir Thomas Edmonds, Knight, Treasurer of the Household to King Charles I., and by her had issue

Charles (*) West Lord La Warr, who married Anne, daughter of John Wild, of Droitwich, Esq., and was buried at Wherwell 27 December, 1687. He had issue, John (*) who was buried at Wherwell 1656, in his 5th year, Henry (*) baptized 28 March and buried at Wherwell 25 April, 1657. John, who became Lord La Warr, and Charles who married first, Mary (*) only daughter of Ferdinando Huddleston, of Milton Castle, Cumberland, Esqre, and secondly a daughter of Sir Edmund Pye, of Bradenham, Bucks.

The members of the family of West whom we know to have been buried at Wherwell are distinguished by a *. The extracts from the Wherwell Register which, by the kindness of the Rev. W. Harison, I am enabled to give in this appendix, make it clear that the house must have been occupied by Sir Owen West and Mary his wife, who was daughter of Sir George Guildford, of Hempstead Place, Kent, both of whom were buried in the church.

Robert West, possibly the son of Thomas Lord La Warr and brother of Sir Thomas who succeeded in 1609.

Charles, 5th Lord La Warr, whose children John and Henry were born here, and who was himself buried here in 1687. His grandmother

Cicely Lady La Warr, widow of Thomas, 3rd Lord, and his son

Charles West, whose first wife Mary, daughter of Ferdinando Huddleston was buried here.

## Wherwell Registers.

By the kindness of the Rev. W. Harison I am enabled to give the following extracts from the Register at Wherwell, which commences 1634 :—

John, son of the Rght. Honble Charles Lord Lawarr, was buried August 1, 1656.

Mary West, the daughter of Rob. West, was baptised the 22nd March, 1656.

Henry West, Esqre., sonne to the Right Honble Charles West Lord Delawarr, was baptized the 28th March, 1657.

Henry West, Esqre., sonn of the Right Honble. the Lord Lawarr, was bur. 25 of April, 1657.

Martha West, the daughter of Robert West, was baptized Sep. 17, 1658.

The Right Honble Cicely Lady Delawarre was burridd July 31, 1662.

The Right Honble Charles Lord Delawarr was buried Dec. 27, 1687

## Will of Sir Owen West, 1551.

*P.P.C.* 30, *Buck.*—In the name of God amen, the xvij daye of July the yere of or lorde God a thousand fyve hundreth fiftie and one in the fyrste yere of Kynge Edward the Syxte. I, Owen West, sicke of bodye, nevertheless hole of mynde and good remembrance, do make my will and testament in manner and form as followeth. First, I bequeathe my soule to Almyghitye God my redeemer and maker and my body to be buried where it shall please God to be at my departing Also I will to be bestowed at my buriall twenty shillings to the poore and twentie shillings more at the monthes mynde according to the discrecion of myne executore Alsoe I bequeath to dame Mary, my wief, the lordship of hynton Martyll after my decease during her life, and after her to remayne betwene my two doughters, Marye and Anne, indifferently and if thone departe then the hole land to remayn unto the other during her lyfe. And I wille that my lorde shall have the gouernance of my daughter Marie in whome ys my trust to see her bestowed and thother to byde thordering of my wief. Also I bequeath unto Spomer and Robert, my s'vants, beside their dulie and unto Bartholemew, a quarters wages. Also I bequeath Elizabeth Husse twentie shillings. Also to William Alyn two quarters of barley and one quarter of wheate. The rest of all my goodes with the lease and occupying of my farm I give and bequeath unto Dame Mary my wife, whom I make my whole and full executrix. And also I bequeath unto my lord my brother my best gelding, and also I bequeath unto my brother gylforde a gelding, the which two I ordayne to be the supervisors of this my last will and testament. And to the Vycar of Wherwell I bequeathe a nagge, to pray for me. Witness Richard Cobbe, the curate, and Elizabeth Husshe.

Proved P.C.C., 30 Oct., 1551.

## Abstract of Wills of Sir Thomas West, K.G., Lord La Warr.

*Sir Thos. West Lord la Warr made two wills one concerning his personal the other his real estate. They are very long but of great interest and importance and would be very valuable to the topographer. The register in P.C.C. is the same for both wills.*

12 More. 5th Sepr., 1 and 2, Philip and Mary. I, Sir Thomas West, Knight, of the noble order of the Garter and Lord Lawarre—body to be buried in the parish church of Broadwater in a poor remem-

brance that I have made there in the south side of the said church, with such funeral charges bothe at my burying and at my months mind and years mind as in the discretion of my executors shall be moste meet. I will that from my death to my buryall shall be given to certayne persons that do come to the said parishe church of Broadwater for to praye to Almighty God to have mercy upon me, and for their paynes to have money, meate, and drynke as shalbe thought mete by my executors and overseers, and so in likewise from the time of my death, at my burial and from my burial, at my months mind and at the twelve months mind at discretion of my executors as they shall think best and pleasing to God, and as shall stand with the King and the Queen's majestys laws—on the day of my buryall to be distributed and given among indigent persons as inhabit and dwell within . . . Newton Valence and Wherwell . . . such sums of money and almes as shall be thought meet by me at my death, or as shall seem good to executors more or less as the necessity as executors think requisite—at my burial and months mind and years mind to such poore people at their own parishe churches aforesaid so that in no wise they can be compelled to further havell or labor for the receipt of the same . . . .

And yf it be so that at the tyme of my decease there be not in my coffers or elsewhere so moche redy money as may suffice of and for the disbursments of the saide almes and also for the money given to the priests, then my will is that such my plate either of golde and other jewels and goodes as I have not given or bequeathed shalbe sould to make money for the payment of the said priests and almes of poor people as is aforesaid, and also for the charges of my funeral . . . and yf not suffice to be levyed on lands.

In the parish in which my body shall be buried my will is that there be provided and chosen immediately after my death an sufficient and hable preest to saye dailye masse and other dyvine service. And also twenty persons of the poorest and most indigent abiders and dwellers at Broadwater or elsewhere . . the saide priest and twenty persons I will to be daily present at the masse and other divine service used in the Church of England by the space of a month next after my decease in the church where my body shall be buried, and there to pray to Almighty God to be merciful to me and to forgive me my sinful life and offences that I have committed and done, and the priest to have daily viij*d.* and every of the said persons to receive daily for their present being at the masse and other service every day for a month iiij*d.*, and for the ringing of the great bell at the same masse and service and at other tymes according to the common course and order vis. viii*d.*, and to the clerk of the same church where the said masse and service is said every day for a month iiij*d.* After my said twelvemonths mind is executed and done that then and from thenceforth there shall be given in alms vj*s.* viii*d.* yearly to parishes named including Newton Valence and Wherwell for so many years as the annuities granted by my late well beloved wife to her friends by my consent out of the manor of Chawkey of her charitable mind shall endure. And to every the curat or parish preste within any of the said parishes viij*d.*, and to the clerk vj*d.*, and to every of the churchwardens in taking paynes in seeing the said money bestowed viij*d.*, to be paid on the anniversary of my death.

I will that blacks be given vnto my syster West, late wief unto Sir

Owen West, Knight, and to my sister Barbara West and to any more that be there, and all other my gentlewomen maids and women that shall be daily in my house at the time of my decease. And also to such of my kyn and others as shall be thought necessary by my executors, being at my burial or my months mind. And all that be my household servants at the tyme of my death shall have every of them and all of them alike lyevery in gowne or cote according to their degree wherewith they shall stand contente for their lyvery for that yeare. And further my will is that every such household servant that hath wages or fee as well men as women shall have one half years wages or fee to be accompted from the day of my death over and above such part of their wages and fees as at the time of my death shall be due unto any of them of and for the rate of the tyme of their service due before my death . . . . all my servants which hathe my wages and lyvery and be not daily attendant and lyvinge in my house shall have every of them a cote or gowne of black lyke unto their degree with the which they shall be content for their lyevery for the year. And beseyd that shall have every of them one quarters wages—balywicks and bailey to have no more than is due to them at the time of my death, and to continue according to their grant except such as be most part daily in my house whiche my household servants shall have a quarters fee of my gift over and above their due, and they to have mete and drynke sufficient by the space of a month after my buryall. Every Baily, Reve, or other forren officer shall have black wherewith they shall hold themselves content. Due and lawful debts to be fully paid.

I give and bequeath to Mary Warrale £40, to my neice, Mary Lewknor, wief of Richard Lewknor, £20. To Mary West, daughter of my brother Sir Owen West, deceased, £200, if she marry without consent of her mother or executors to have no benefit from will.

To my neice Mary West, daughter of my brother Leonard West, £100 ut supra. To Mary West, daughther of Sir Owen West, £10 a year till marriage, if my nevye William West live so long provided as soon as Mary West shall marry or die the annuity cease.

My niece Mary West, daughter of Leonard West, £5 a year as above. My nephews, Thomas West, William West, and John West, sons of my brother Leonard West, £6 8s. 4d. during the life of William West, son and heir of my brother Sir George West.

Such fees and annuitys as were granted by my father, the late Lord La Warr—except such as I have restrayned for not doing of their duties according to the intent and meaning of their grants and patents, shall be good.

As soon as conveniently may be after my decease my executors make or cause to be made by the oversight of three or fouer knowledged and expert persons an inventory of all my corne, cattle, plates, jewels, &c., and the appraisement made. The same to be sold and go to the payment of my debts and performance of my will, my rayment and harness and such things as I now lymit and appoint to be standards in my house only excepted, and except all such as by this my last will and Testament are disposed. I will that all my harness and artillery for the wares with all things thereunto belonging as salletts, spents, sculles, gorgetts, bowes, arrows, billes, gonnes, axes and other munytions that are or shalbe myne at the tyme of my death shall remayn to my next heir male, that shall have my manor of Offingham,

which things I give him for the defence of this shore provided that he shall not alyenate any part of the same . . . if he sell it shall be lawful for my executors to recover and to bestow for the wealth of my soul. All such furnishing as remayneth and doth belong to the great chambers at Offingham shall wholly remayne to my next heir. I give all manner of portallus, sollinges, locks, keys, tables, forms, joynt stolleys that are not covered nor have any silk, gold, or silver upon them, glass as well in the chambers and hall as in the kitchen and all other houses of office in both my houses in Offington, Southgate, Sulhurst, and in my house in London, shall wholly remain and be as standards for the same houses as I have appointed about my harness and artillery. To my said nephew, Willyam West, son of my brother George West, certain bedding, hangings, and kitchen stuff, and other stuff, implements of household necessary to be used, and also certain ornaments for the service of God within the Chapell at Offington and Ewhurst . . . the contents of all which be in an inventory and schedule to this will annexed. And yf I make no such schedule then I will that myne executors shall do therein by their good discretion . . . my well beloved brother-in-law Sir John Guildford, Knight, my cousin Edward Page, Esqre., Thomas Bishopp, and John Lloyde, gentlemen, my true and faithful executors . . . my right worthy and well beloved John Gower, my nephew James Gage, my nephew Thomas Guildford, and Henry Shelley, Esqre., to take the place of executors dying.

Witnesses, John Warmit, Thomas Owen, William Mody, Thomas Browne, Thomas Roffe, Willyam Lane.

## Extracts from the Will of Sir Thomas West Lord La Warr (real property).

More 13. 5 September, 1554. I, the said Lord La Warr, am now seized in my demesne as of fee simple of my manor of Stratford Toney, Wilts, Honyton, Wilts, Oke Hanger, co. Southampton, Blatchington, Sussex, Sompting and Cookham, Sussex, purchased of Sir Richard Sheeley, Kt., Knapp, Sussex, water mill in the parish of Knapp, Stockparte, Hooklands, Myddlebrook, Honeyport, in parishes of Shipley and West Greensted. My park of Knapp, with messuages, woods, underwoods, &c., in parishes of Shipley, West Grensted, Thackenham, Esslington, Horsham, Ifeld, to the manor of Knapp belonging all and singular manor and lands, &c., now of clear yearly value of £143 17s. 10d., over and above reprisals. My manor of Blackington with advowson of the Church, co. Sussex, of the yearly value of £48. Cobham, Sussex, worth £48 7s. All these to descend to my heirs for ever, that is to say to the Right noble Ladye Jane Duchess of Northumberland, widow, late wief unto John late Duke of Northumberland, and daughter unto Elinore late wief unto Sir Edward Guildford, Knight, one of the sisters and heirs of me, the saide Lord La Warr, and to Thomas Dering, son and heir of Elizabeth, late wief of Nicholas Dering, Esqre, and to Mary Warnet, wief of John Warnet, gentleman, and to Ann Gage, wief of John Gage, Esqre., which Elizabeth Mary

and Ann were daughters unto Dorothy Owen, sometime wief to Sir Henry Owen, Kt., lately deceased, sister unto the said Lord La Warr, and are of my heirs according to the right course of inheritance of the country and of the realm without any declaration of any will to inherit.

And whereas at the parliament holden at Westminster after dyverse prorogations in the third year of our late Sovereigne Lord Edward the Sixth reign it was enacted uppon good and reasonable causes that the manors of . . . . the site and precint of the late monastery of Wherwell, otherwise called Warwell, in the county of Southampton, with all manner of houses, &c., within the said site convent and precint of the said late Monastery of Wherwell . . . with one watermill and thirty acres of land in several with the several water in Wherwell . . . should be adjudged to belong to me, the said Thomas West now Lord Lawarr, &c., and to the heirs male of my body . . . and in defaulte of such yssue remainder to Sir Owen West, Knight, now deceased and to his heirs male . . . for default of such issue the remainder to the executors of the said Lord La Warr and to the over liver of them to and for the performance of the last will and testament of me the said Lord La Warr. And whereas sithence the making of the said acte the said Sir Owen West, Knight, is deceased without issue male of his body, I, the saide Lord La Warr, according to the liberty to me given by the said acte touching the ordering of my said manors, lordships, lands, &c., in the same acte conteyned and of all lands reputed or taken as members of them . . . . which shall grow during the lief of the said William West and whereof I have authority and power by the said act to declare my will and to appoint what person or persons shall take the same. I therefore . . . will the same to be disposed of in manner and form following. That is to say whereas upon many and notable actes and considerations well known the said William West, son and heir of Sir George West, Knight, my late brother, is by the said act of . . . Parliament disabled to inherit . , . any of the lordships, &c., and any other possession of me, the said Lord La Warr, parte of which his ungodly and unnatural presents and acts he rehearsed and truly declared and set forth in the preamble of the said act, and other his vicious and evel demeanours were for divers considerations, and for that he is of my blude passed over in silence. I do now heartily desire God to send him his grace to amend and become his servant, and do clearly forgive him before God his offences to me committed as I would be forgiven. And having trust that by the goodness and infinite mercy and grace of the Almighty God who calleth all synners and offenders when it pleaseth him to repentance, he will amend, Do by this my last will and testament and of my charity lonely and nothing of his deserts give and bequeath to him the said William West during his life natural towards the maintenance of his living and degree, all the rentes issues, &c., of all those manors hereinafter expressed, being parcel of the land mentioned in the said act . . . the manor of Wherwell with remainder to his heirs male.

Proved P.C.C., 12 Nov., 1554.

## Abridged Pedigree of Kingsmill.

Kingsmill, alias Castelain, living at Basingstoke temp. King John.
Hugh Kingsmill, temp. Edw. I.

Arms: Ar. crucilly sa. a chev. erm. between 3 millrinds of the second a chef of the third.
Crest: A cubit arm erect, vested ar. cuff ermines, holding in the hand ppr. a millrind sa.

- Richard Kingsmill of Basingstoke, temp. Ed. IV. ob. 1511, will proved same year. = Alice.
  - Sir John Kingsmill of Basingstoke, knt. Justice of Common Peas, ob. 1509, will proved same year. = Jane d. of Sir John Gifford of Itchell.
    - Sir John Kingsmill of Sydmonton, Sheriff of Hants 1543. = Constance, da. of John Goring of Burton, Sur.
      - William.
      - Richard.
      - Edward.
      - Henry. ob. 1579.
      - John. George.
      - Andrew.
      - Thomas of Knights Enham, Prof. of Hebrew, Oxford. = Abigail Robinson.
        - Samuel Kengysmill of Knights Enham, bu. at Andover, 27 Dec., 1637.
      - others.
    - Alice, m. T. Bullock.
    - Mary, m. R. Waller, of Old Stoke,
    - Morphet, last abbess of Wherwell, ob. 1570.
  - Ellen = William Cuffold, of Cuffold, co. Suth.
- Edward Kingsmill of Winchester. = —— Cooke.
  - John Kingsmill of Winchester. = Margaret da. of — Byrd.
    - William Kingsmill of Millbrook. = Agnes Sparvell.
  - William Kingsmill S.T.B. Prior S. Swithun, Dean of Winchester 1540, rector of Alverstoke 1541, of Colmer 1543, of Codford, Wilts, 1544, ob. 1548.

## Extracts from the Register of Longparish.

1664.—Nicholas Withers, the elder, of Andover, was buried in Longparish Chancel March 29, 1664.
1668.—Christenings.—Elizabeth, the daughter of Mr. Nicholas Withers and of Elizabeth his wife, Dec. 1.
1670.—Burials.—Richard, son of Mr. Nickles Withers, Sept. 19.
1671.—Susanna, daughter do. do. Nov. 22.
1674.—Jane do. do. christened
1676.—Nicholas, the son of do. do. died
1678.—William, „ do. do. died
1682.—Burial.—Sept. 3, Mrs. Elizabeth Withers.
1687.—Burial.—Elizabeth Withers, April 18.
1687.—Marriage.—Mr. Nickolas Withers and Frances Russell, Dec. 20.
1691.—Burial.—Nickls Withers, Nov. 26.
1703.—Mary Withers, bapt.
1705.—Nicholas Withers, bapt.

---

1656.—Marriage.—Nicholas Greene and Jeane Blake, Feb. 16.
1656.—Ruth, daughter of Mr. Nicholas Greene, baptized Dec. 13.
1662.—Nicholas Greene and Jeane Williams were married in the Parish Church of Longparish, Dec. 23, 1662.
1663.—Thomas, the son of Mr. Nicholas Greene and of Jeane his wife, was baptised Jan. 3, 1663.
1665.—Richard, the son of Nicholas Greene and of Jeane his wife, was baptised September 3.
1667.—Marke, the son of Nicolas Greene, July 12.
1669.—Burial.—January 21, Jane, the wife of Nicholas Greene.
1669.—Christning.—Jane, dau. of Nicholas Green and Jane his wife, Jan. 21.

The following are explanations of some of the obsolete words used in the will of Morphet Kingsmill :—

Darnex.—A coarse sort of Damask. It was composed of different kinds of materials as worsted, silk, wool or thread.
Gyned Stoles.—Joint stools.
Andears.—Fire dogs.
Bankers.—A cloth or covering of tapestry for a seat.
Lettes.—Lettice. A kind of grey fur.
Sorrane.—? Embroidery.
Saye.—Serge or woollen cloth.
Partlett.—A ruff.
Potenger.—A little dish with ears.
Alkems.—Alcamyne. A mixed metal.
Brochys.—Spits.
Tren.—? A wooden vessel. A tren is also an instrument for killing fish at sea.
Bolt.—To sift.
Sakes.—Sacks.
Syre.—? A saw.

## CHAPTER V.

## PENTON MEWSEY.

Domesday Book, the record of the survey of the Country made in A.D. 1085, mentions the Church at "Penitone." It does not indeed tell us very much about it, but it at least supplies the interesting fact that before the Norman Conquest a church was standing on the present site :—

"Here is a church and three servants, and five acres of meadow, and a wood without pannage."

The Manor was held by Turald of the chief tenant or "tenant in capite," "Roger the Earl," as he is called. We may therefore, with almost absolute certainty, assume that the relative positions of Church and Manor-house have been the same during nine centuries and more.

Why this particular spot in the Manor should have been chosen at the first for building the church and house is not very difficult to conjecture when the contour lines of the map are consulted. Penton Mewsey is built along the bottom of a little tongue-shaped valley running nearly North and South, the slopes of which are much sharper when facing to the West than to the East. This valley is stopped at its southern end by the line of hill which projects into the basin of the Anton, which is best known from the fair held on its crest at Weyhill. At the foot of this line of hills lies the course of the little stream, a tributary of the Anton, which though now generally dry at Penton makes itself conspicuous at The "Perills" at Charlton and joins the other branch of the river in the water meadows at Enham Knights. A small pond never known to be dry, but to which cling traditions of occasional disagreeable behaviour marks the spring, and as a general rule keeps to itself the representative character, as if it personified the stream which doubtless attracted the Saxon landholders to its banks.

The bridges in the Park make it easy to trace the sinuous course of the bed of a stream considerable enough when the hills were covered with frost to supply a means of communica-

PENTON MEWSEY CHURCH.

tion with other settlements as well as other needs of the dwellers on the Manor. And, looking from what is now the road to Weyhill, one has but in imagination to set the stream a-running and clothe the hills more thickly with trees, and the type of the old "English" farmer commonwealth with its "mark" around it, is before you. Developed indeed into a model village, but still retaining the traces of its original formation in the remote past, before even the over-lordships of the kingdom of Wessex had been established.

Tacitus was struck with the hatred of the German race for cities, and their love even within their little settlements of a jealous independence. "They live apart," he says, "each by himself as woodside, plain or fresh spring attracts him." And as each dweller within the settlement was jealous of his own isolation and independence among his fellow-settlers, so each settlement was jealous of its independence among its fellow settlements.

Each little farmer commonwealth was girt by its own border or "mark," a belt of forest, or waste, or fen, which parted it from its fellow villages, a ring of common ground which none of its settlers might take for his own, but which served as a death ground where criminals met their doom, and was held to be the special dwelling place of the nixie and the will-o'-the-wisp. If a stranger came through this wood or over this waste, custom bade him blow his horn as he came, for if he stole through secretly he was taken for a foe, and any man might lawfully slay him.—(Green, History of the English People, p. 3.)

We may so easily realise, as we stand on the higher ground of the western boundary of the churchyard, the self-supporting and self-contained manor with its modern hall and modern church. The hall of the lord occupying the centre of the homestead near the stream with the huts of the ceorls and serfs along the little tiny valley. The butter, the cheese, the bacon made at home, the corn ground in the quern, the beer brewed, and the honey collected by the family.

The splendid chestnut trees in the grove and Rectory, although they cannot be of anything like such antiquity, yet not only adorn the spot but do much to suggest the idea of the original settlement.

Of the church existing at the time of the Domesday survey there are no traces whatever. (The conversion of Wessex did not begin until A.D. 635.) It was most probably of wood

and very small. It is not quite impossible that the plan of the present church, or perhaps even the foundations may be the same, but that is merely conjecture.

Indeed, so far as I have been able at present to ascertain, we have no information whatever about the church, its structure, and appearance until we come to the alterations and renovations of the present century.

It happened most fortunately that Penton Mewsey Church attracted the attention in 1843 of Mr. Owen B. Carter, an architect, who published a short account of it, illustrated with five engravings, in Weales' Quarterly papers on Architecture, Vol. II. From his description free quotation is here made.

Mr. Carter assigns the building of Penton Mewsey Church "to the middle of the 14th cent. or perhaps a little later." The structure, he says, "is of stone and flint roughly headed, the flintwork a very good example of its kind."

The style of architecture is that development of the Geometric or Decorated, known as "flamboyant" (flame like) or flowing. Mr. Carter observes, "The windows and doorways to the nave are good examples, the former displaying some peculiar tracery, particularly those giving light to the chancel," the singularly graceful beauty of which will hardly escape notice.

The question naturally arises, what is there to account for the marked difference in the building of Penton Church, from the churches of the neighbouring district; the majority of them are of rough design and plain detail, while the mouldings and tracery at Penton seem to show the work of a hand that has not left its mark elsewhere in this part of Hampshire.

At present we must be content to let this question remain unanswered. But this much we are able to say. The Manor of Penton Mewsey and the advowson of the church belonged in A.D. 1381 to Edmond de Stonore (Inquis post mortem 5 Ric. II.)—who died in that year—and to his son and heir John Stonore in 1389 (Inquis post mortem 13 Ric. II.), the church was then valued at £6 13s. 4d. (Woodward and Wilks, Hist. Hants, vol. iii., p. 187.), and probably in the history the family of Stonore we shall find whatever elucidation is to be discovered.

Looking round the outside of the church, which we shall probably approach from the east, the first thing that will

attract notice is the gable wall of the chancel with its chequer work of flint and stone. This wall has been almost rebuilt in the restoration under Captain Sutton carried out by Messrs. Bodley and Garner, the architects, in 1888, but as the stones were numbered and replaced in their original positions, the "restoration" is properly so called. The very beautiful east window is entirely new, but is nevertheless a reproduction of the original work as shown by fragments that were found.

Until this last restoration the window now in the north side of the chancel occupied the place of the east window, being placed very low, the sill only seven feet from the floor. The north window has now happily been replaced in its own proper place. The bases of the gable crosses are in the Rectory garden.

The priests' door on the south side of the chancel is very remarkable. It was for many years concealed by a rough building originally intended for a coal cellar, but subsequently used as a vestry. The peculiar stilted arch, composed of irregular lengths of straight stones, will be noticed. Two beautiful delicate shafts form the jambs of the opening.

Mr. Carter, however, thinks that the door is not original, but "formed from stone fragments of the north window of the nave." There are no corresponding mouldings in the south window, but then, on the other hand, close inspection will make it doubtful as to whether the present bases of the little column were not originally meant for capitals, and are now reversed.

The smallness of the flint squares in the wall should be noticed.

The yew tree, standing at the south-west side of the churchyard, is still of fine growth; it measures 9ft. 9in. at the base, but it was very much broken in the heavy snow-storm of 1881.

The pretty porch, the gift of Captain Sutton, replaces a very dilapidated and hideous structure. The hinges on the door are especially worthy of notice. Mr. Carter cites them as "a useful example;" they have been carefully repaired, but are as they were turned out of the 14th century workshop.

The most interesting feature of the church is the bell turret, which is almost, if not quite, unique. It is figured as a particularly interesting example in the Archæological Journal, Vol. III., p. 210, and is the subject of a full-sized

plate in Mr. Carter's paper. In 1843, Mr. Carter tells us the belfry "was covered with a boarded and tiled erection which entirely concealed its best features. Upon close examination I found it so worthy of restoration as to mention the subject to the Rev. C. Dodson (the present incumbent), by whom it was introduced to the Hon. — Pierrepoint, and the result has been its perfect restoration by direction of the latter gentleman."

The bells are modern and one of them not without a suspicion of a crack, by which its voice is rendered less tuneful than it might be. While speaking of the bells, it will be well to mention here that a small bell was discovered in 1845. An account of it with drawings was read at the meeting of the Archæological Association in 1846 by the Rev. A. B. Hutchins (Proceedings of the Archæological Association, Vol. II. p. 184), who indulges in a most fanciful interpretation of the arabesques upon it, which, as it has not a shadow of probability, need not be quoted here. His description of the bell is this: "The original bell, of which the enclosed drawing is a faithful representation, was found last July by a mason while repairing the back part of the wall of the old Rectory stable, at Penton Mewsey, Hants. The same lay concealed within a yard of the floor. Doubtless the former little sanctus bell had been removed in the reign of Edward the Sixth, it was therefore necessary when the Papist worship was restored, to provide a new bell, which satisfactorily accounts for the date on it. It was then used for the short period of Mary's reign, after which it was removed, which accounts for the perfect state in which the bell was found. The attention of the archæologist is to be particularly directed to the mode in which the clapper is suspended. Instead of a ring being cast in the head on which the clapper is suspended you find that the bell is cast without any consideration of the clapper. That when so cast a hole is drilled on either side of the head and a wire is fixed on one side, the clapper being on it, and the wire left so that it may draw in tighter, or be left at full play, that the sound of the bell may be louder or lower as may be required in service. The inscription is—

SIT NOMEN DOMINI BENEDICTVM.
A° X¹ 1555
(Blessed be the name of the Lord)"

Mr. Hutchins was probably misled as to the use of the

PERCY·BUCKMAN del:

BELL FOUND IN THE WALL OF THE OLD RECTORY STABLES, PENTON MEWSEY, JULY, 1845.

bell, which was most likely for domestic purposes either as a clock or hand bell. Happily very careful drawings were made of it by Miss Octavia Dodson. I do not know where the bell is now.

On entering the Church one's first impression will be that of the completeness and harmony of its proportions and outline. The original plan has been departed from by the addition of the transept on the north side. Originally the walls were plain and unbroken by windows to within a few feet of the chancel arch, but a window was inserted during the last restoration at the N.W. end to give much needed light. Mr. Carter says :—" The ancient north window had been destroyed and a communication formed with a monstrous erection in the shape of a gallery 'pue' furnished with carpets, chairs, curtains, and open fireplace with all its noisy appurtenances. This abomination has lately been removed and in its place a sort of transept has been formed and furnished with seats as above mentioned."

The window on the south side of the nave is not only beautiful in itself but very interesting from the piscina with a credence shelf constructed in the splay. This piscina of course indicates that there was a side altar, about which we may hope in the future to gather some information, but nothing as yet is known.

Special notice should be taken of the beautiful effect produced by the hood moulding.

The only fragments of ancient stained glass that remain are gathered into this window. They consist of the usual outline ornament of natural foliage within a border, worked out with a "scratcher," and coloured by the silver stain as described by Mr. Winston to be characteristic of the Decorated period. Mr. Sturgess, of this parish, remembers this glass being taken from the west window.

The North door has been long blocked up.

In the recess formed by it there hangs at present a board recording the following

BENEFACTIONS.

Anno Dom 1651, Mr. John Read of London left nine
Pounds per annum to be paid to the Churchwardens
of Penton to be distributed as followeth namely
Six pounds per annum for teaching
the poor children of the parish of Penton
and of Penton Grafton in the parish of Weyhill
to read write and cypher

Also 13s. 4d. yearly to the Minister of
The Parish of Penton to preach a ser
mon there on the 5th Day of November
and 6s. 8d. to the Clerk for making clean
of the said Church
also one Pound per annum to the
poor of the parish of Penton
and one pound to the poor ef the
parish of Weyhill.

The dimensions of the church within the walls are nave 40ft. by 20ft, chancel 25ft. by 16ft. The total length is 67ft., the height to the wall plate is 15ft. 8in.

The roof is of the form known as barrel or waggon shaped. It was unfortunately partially burnt in December 1889, but has been restored to its original design. Some new timbers had to be inserted, but a large proportion, including the tie beams, are the old wood, a battlemented beading has however been introduced during the repairs.

The beautiful delicacy of the spring of the chancel arch from its jambs, and the exquisite flowing lines of the chancel windows and their mouldings should be especially noticed.

All the stone of the windows, chancel arch, and doorway is a very fine grained oolite of the character of Bath stone.

"The Font," says Mr. Carter, "is also worthy of attention, presenting considerable elegance and originality of contour." The tracery on its panels preserves no doubt the outline of the original carving, and so gives us the intention of the 14th century artist. It is, however, really "made up" in plaster or cement. The chippings and injuries it has sustained are thus concealed, but it gives an uncomfortable fictitious appearance.

The church had undergone a restoration, which probably destroyed a great deal that was valuable and interesting. Mr. Carter describes it in 1844 thus:—"The church has lately been repaired with deal, and adds another to the many unhappy attempts of a similar description so common at the present day."

But by the liberality of Captain Francis Sutton a complete and thorough restoration, which at the same time rendered the ancient church perfectly fit and convenient for its sacred purpose was carried out in 1888. The floor was raised to its proper level by a bed of concrete. The wretched dilapidated transept almost entirely rebuilt. The seats and stalls of pitch pine and the pulpit (a very fine example of carving) introduced, and all the fittings made as complete as possible.

The Altar frontal was the gift of the Lady Susan Sutton, and the Bible was given by Captain Sutton.

A chair of the early part of the 18th century, a good example of an ordinary type, stands in the sanctuary.

In the Inventory of Church Goods sold in 1556 we find those taken from Penton mentioned :—

Land Revenue Church Goods Bundle 445. No. 14 2 & 3 Ph. & Mary.

The certificat of S^r^ Henry Seymo^r^ S^r^ John Kyngesmill S^r^ ffrances fflemyng and S^r^ William Keylivey, Knights, concerning the sale of alle and singler plate Jewells meneye and ornaments collected of the Churches hereunder written, by viitue of Comyshan geven from Edward the vjth late King of England, and sithence restored paid and paiable by virtue of certeyn warrants to them geven from the lords of the Councell to the Queen's maiestie that nowe is. As by the same warrants ready to be shewed more playnly appeareth

peinte meuse

not paid — The ornaments there to John thomas iij^s^
Received therefore a littell boxe of Silver weinge one ouze

---

## MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS WITHIN THE CHURCH.

Marble Tablet against the East wall of the Nave—

Elizabeth the wife of
Commander Cha^s^ Thompson Royal Navy
who died Jan^y^ 2nd 1840 aged 60 years
Also their children
Thomas Hardy Died Jan^y^ 30th 1817
Aged 2 years
Sarah died April 1st 1817 aged 11 months
Charles Henry died at Sarum
Jan^y^ 24th 1823 aged 18 years
Elizabeth died Feb 9th 1825 aged 16
Genge Anson died June 6th 1841 aged 20.
Commander Cha^s^ Thompson Royal Navy
died Feb 12th 1859 aged 82 years

Marble Tablet beneath the preceding—

In a vault beneath
are deposited the remains
of
Harriet Elmore
Daughter of George Elmore
who departed this life April 22, 1819
aged 21 years
Also of Eliza aged 7 years
And of Alfred aged 5 years

On the floor at the West End—

Under this stone
lieth the Body of
Ab$^{rm}$ Leggatt
Citizen of London Distiller
who died Oct 7, 1718
aged 34 years

Marble Tablet on West Wall of Transept—

Louisa Thompson
Daughter of
George Nesbitt Thompson Esq$^{re}$
and Catherine Maria his wife
was born 18th Jan$^{y}$ 1795 and died 24 Oct. 1809

Beauteous, and gay, and innocent, and good,
Just on the brink of youth Louisa stood
The happiest hopes her early years supplied,
But ere fifteen matured her bloom she died.

On the floor at the West End—

. . . he lieth the Body of
. . . shua Strother M.A.
vicar of Brinchley
in the County of Kent
died March ye 7th 1743
aged 71 years
. . . ances his wife who
. . . d August ye 19th 1754
aged 79 years

On the floor at the West End—

Here
lyeth the body of
Richard Appary who
died April 20, 1731
aged 60 years
a faithful friend a father dear
a loving . . . . . .
(hidden by font)

On the same stone—

Here
lyeth the Body
of Elizabeth the
wife of Richard
Appary who died
. . . . . .
(hidden by font)

On a stone at the West End—

In memory of
Mr. Charles Bright
who died Aug. ye 5

. . . . .

aged 69 years
also of
Mr. Thomas Bright
who died October
aged

Hannah Michener
who died July ye 9
aged 52 years.

## THE CHURCH PLATE.

The Church Plate is of very solid and substantial character, and is pronounced by Lambert to be very good of its date. Although a special gift it can hardly have been made with reference to this particular parish; for, even allowing for the requirements of the Test Act, the chalice is far larger than could ever have been needed, and for the more frequent celebrations of the present day it is uncomfortably capacious.

The chalice and paten are both of silver, of the New Standard (11oz. 10dwts).

The paten measures 5¼ inches in diameter, and stands 2 inches high. It is marked with the maker's initials, H.O., a mark not given by Mr. Chaffers. Britannia and the lion's head erased, (the standard marks), and the date letter, which appears to be the Court-hand Q, and would therefore indicate the year 1711-12; weight 6oz.

The chalice is 14¼ inches high, the diameter of the top is $4\frac{7}{16}$ inches, while the foot is exactly 4 inches in diameter.

The marks are C B with a bird above and e below, a mark given in Mr. Chaffers' book under the date 1712, Britannia and the lion's head erased (the standard marks), and the date letter, the Court-hand S, for the year 1713-14: weight 18oz.

The following inscription is engraved in script on the bowl:—

"The gift of Mr. Edward Grace 1714.
Vestry."

The date letter on the chalice corresponds with this record, but it would seem as if the paten was not made at the same time or by the same maker.

There is also an alms-dish 8½ inches in diameter, engraved with the sacred monogram in the centre, surrounded by this inscription :—

"Presented to the Parish of Penton Mewsey by Caroline, widow of the late Thomas Willis, December 25, 1835."

The date letter ñ shows that the plate was made in 1828 ; weight 13oz.

Although, therefore, the Church plate at Penton Mewsey is fine and interesting, it is not so old as that of several neighbouring churches.

There is a large electro-plated flagon.

Some of the Grace family, by whom the chalice was presented, resided at Foxcotte, and one died at Highclere in 1722 ; their names occur in the register from 1710 to 1742, but there is no mention of Mr. Edward Grace.

## THE REGISTERS.

The earliest register is a small book of parchment of very irregular sized leaves, but averaging about 9in. by 7in. It has been torn out of its covers. On the first page is written :—

. . . . of Richard Noyes
Register of Penton Mewsey

The ink has in many places nearly faded out, and here and there some one has attempted to revive the writing with but very indifferent success.

There are eleven folios. The book is not in good condition, and in places it is illegible. It extends from 1642, 18 Charles I. to 1677, 29 Charles II. The last page being occupied with a list of Briefs.

As is usual the Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials are intermixed in the register.

Some names familiar up to the present in the parish are found.

In the year 1662 is an entry of the burial of Richard Russell, of Exeter College, Oxford, son of Richard Russell, Rector of Penton, and in the same year an entry records that Thomas Colepepper, Lord of the Manor, was buried in the Chancel.

Several entries of "Burial in Woolen" occur, as for instance :—

1678 Richard Russell Rector of Penton was buried in woolen according to y^e^ said Act.

Dec. 27 May y^e^ daughter of Thomas Munday was buried in Woolen.

1678 September 11th Richard Russell Rector of Penton was Buried was not put in wrapt or wound up in any shirt shift sheet or shroud But what was made of sheeps wool only in conformity and according to the Act of Parliament in that case made and provided And also notice was given to the minister of ye same within eight daies after the said interrment according to the said Act.

It will be noticed the register of the burial of the Rev. Richard Russell is in duplicate, some folios having been inserted into the second volume of the register.

The singular sumptuary law for the dead was devised by the Parliament of 1666, 18 and 19 Charles II. :—"It was professedly passed for the encouragement of the woolen manufacture, and prevention of the exportation of moneys for the buying and importing of linen and it enacted that after March 25, 1667, no person should be 'buried' in any shirt, shift, or sheete other than should be made of wool onely." The provisions of the Act were so strict that even the quilting round the inside of the coffin and the ligature round the feet of the corpse were required to be of woolen.

The statute was generally disobeyed and the penalty could seldom be enforced, because an information could only be laid by those who were most interested in concealing the offence. To remedy this a more stringent Act was passed in 1678, 30 Charles II. c. 3 which obliged the clergy to make an entry within eight days after the burial certifying that the requirements of the law had been complied with. The statutes were finally repealed in 1814.

Parish Registers in England practically owe their origin to the injunction issued by Cromwell, The Vicar General, Sep. 29, 1538.

It is much to be deplored that none exist at the Church of Penton Mewsey for so long a period, but as happily among the comparatively few places of which the transcripts are preserved at Winchester our parish happens to be one we may possibly some day be able to supply some of the deficiency.

The Registrar, Richard Noyes, whose name occurs on the first page occupied the official position in the parish which had been created by an enactment of Parliament in 1653, which provided that the inhabitants and householders of each parish shall make choice of some honest and able person such as shall be sworn and approved by one Justice of the

peace to have the keeping of the said book. By this act marriages were not to be performed by the minister but by the Justices of the Peace. After 1656 it became a common practice for marriages to be celebrated by the minister and the Mayor of the town jointly.

There are no entries of marriages by a magistrate in Penton register, but there is one which shews a decided antipathy to the "civil" taking the place of the "religious."

1657 Sep$^{r}$ 28 John Tabor Rect$^{r}$ of ffaccomb and
Bridget Russell daughter to Richard Russell
Rector of this place were married *by a lawful minister ye banns being thrice published*

The words in italics are in a different hand and written with blacker ink.

1697 Januy 21 a poor disbanded soldier Buryed according a late act of parlam$^{t}$ for burying in woolen

## BRIEFS.

The last page of the first volume of the Register is occupied by a list of briefs.

These were letters patent issued by the Sovereign directing the collection of alms for special objects named in them. They were granted for building and repairing churches, and for many benevolent purposes such as compensation for losses by fire.

An act of Parliament was passed to regulate them in 1705. It will be remembered that the Rubric in the Prayer Book directs that after the Nicene Creed (if occasion be) Briefs citations and excommunications are to be read. The following are those recorded at Penton :—

Collected towards the relief of those that suffered by fire at Melton Abbey in dorset 2$^{s}$ 3$^{d}$ at Penton Mewsey Feb 3, 1660.

Collected towards the relief of those that suffered by fire at Ilmister in Somerset the sum of 4$^{s}$ at Penton Mewsey March y$^{e}$ 17$^{th}$ 1660.

Collected towards the relief of the town of Southwould als Southbay in the county of Suffolk the sum of three shillings and fower pence at Penton Mewsey June the 20$^{th}$ 1661.

Collected at Penton Mewsey June the 23$^{rd}$ 1661 towards those that suffered by fire in Fleet Street in ye psh of S$^{t}$ Dunstan in London the sum of three shillings halfpeny farthing.

Collected towards those who suffered by fire at Huford.

Collected towards a fire at Hungerford . . . one penny.

## The Churchwardens' Book

Begins Sept. 6, 1838, at one end; Easter, 1805, at the other.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1818 | March 27 | Paid Wiltshire for 21 mouls ... | | 5 | 3 |
| | April 3 | Do. Walter for 6 sparrows ... | | | 6 |
| | 4 | Do. Wilkins for 68 mouls ... | | 17 | 6 |
| | 10 | Do. Chilvers for 2 mouls ... | | | 6 |
| | 17 | Do. Cradweet for stough ... | | | 4 |
| | | Do. Chivers for 2 mouls ... | | | 6 |
| | 18 | Do. Wiltshire for 58 mouls ... | | 14 | 6 |
| | May 2 | Do. Wiltshire for 36 mouls ... | | 9 | 0 |
| | 8 | Do. Chivers for 6 sparrows ... ... | | | 6 |
| | 9 | Do. Grigory for hedgehog ... ... | | | 4 |
| | 9 | Bread and wine for Sacrament ... | | 6 | 6 |
| | 15 | Paid Wiltshire for 24 mouls ... | | 6 | 0 |
| | 26 | Do. Dudman for 2 doz. sparrows ... | | 1 | 0 |
| | | Do. Clark for 2 do. do ... ... | | 1 | 0 |
| | 28 | Do. Butt for 1 do. and half ... | | | 9 |
| | | Do. Cinnetts for 5 do. ... ... | | 2 | 6 |
| | May 28 | Do. for 2 doz. of old sparrows ... | | 2 | 0 |
| | | Do. for 1 doz. of young ... ... | | | 6 |
| | 30 | Do. for 7 mouls ... ... | | 1 | 9 |
| | | Do. Chevers for 4 doz. sparrows ... | | 2 | 0 |
| | | Do. Brown for 3 old sparrows ... | | | 3 |
| | June 1 | Paid Visitation fees and other expenses at Andover ... ... ... | | 2 | 6 |
| 1819 | | For sprows and wants ... ... | | 14 | 1 |
| | | Paid for wants and stots ... ... | | 5 | 8 |
| 1820 | | P[d] for adder... ... ... | | | 6 |
| 1839 | July 11 | George Brown viper ... ... | | | 6 |
| 1842 | | Charles Wayte 1 adder ... ... | | | 6 |
| | Oct. 6 | Henry Houps 1 weazle ... ... | | | 4 |
| 1843 | Decr. 30 | Alex[r] Walters 1 pole cat ... ... | | 1 | 0 |
| 1842 | | Collected by rate 1/- in the Pound | 55 | 10 | 9 |
| 1843 | March 23 | Do. by rate at 3d. in the Pound (in part) | 10 | 17 | 1½ |
| 1845 | | Collected by Rate at 1/- in the Pound ... | 52 | 0 | 5 |
| | March 25 | Subscription for repairing the Church ... | 92 | 0 | 0 |
| | | In hand ... ... ... | 10 | 13 | 2 |
| | | Borrowed of Miss Grace Thompson ... | 25 | 0 | 0 |
| | | By two old windows ... ... | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | 181 | 13 | 7 |
| 1846 | March 25 | Disbursements ... ... ... | 179 | 6 | 11½ |
| | | Due to Parish ... ... ... | 2 | 6 | 7½ |
| 1849 | Jan. 18 | Gibbs repairing the Turret ... | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| | | Herbert Do. windows | | | |
| | June 17 | Rev. Mr. Dodson for Flagon (Parish) ... | 3 | 5 | 0 |
| 1852 | April 22 | Houps Taking down and replacing the Church Bell (to be repaired) | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| 1854 | | Spackman Vase for the font | | 10 | 6 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1863 | | Henry Sturgess for building Fuel House and repairs ... ... ... | 4 | 9 | 6 |
| 1866 | | Paid Richard Reaves for keeping order at Church ... ... ... | | 5 | 0 |
| 1877 | | Minute of meeting for faculty to pull down the old church | | | |
| 1884 | | Statement of Facts as to Powney Bequest | | | |
| 1846 | Nov. 21 | Thos Houps cleaning watercourse round the church ... ... ... | | 1 | 6 |
| 1843 | | New pewing the church<br>Resolved that an application be made to the Chancellor of the diocese for his permission to sell the cracked Bell and the proceeds of the sale to be used towards the restoration of the original Bell Turret which contains two sufficient Bells. | | | |

## Rectors of Penton Mewsey.

It is a cherished hope that a list of the Rectors, at any rate, from A.D. 1282, may eventually be compiled. There is so much to be gleaned, not merely of the names, but the history from the Bishops' Registers that nothing less than an exhaustive search of them will be satisfactory.

As an example of what may be found we may mention that in the register of Bishop Woodlock, 1305, 33 Edward I. to 1316, 9 Edward II. there is a record of "Leave of Absence" being granted to the Rector of Penton, and a writ issuing against Richard the parson of Penton Mewsey at the suit of the Abbot of Grestain.

In the time of Bishop Stratford, 1323 to 1333, we have the Institution to the Church of Penton Mewsey on the presentation of Henry de Hamhull, or again we shall probably get the name of the Rector when the present church was built, and not impossibly something about the builder from the Register of Bishop Edington, 1346, 20 Edward III. to 1366, 40 Edward III., for the Rector was instituted then on the presentation of John de Wynton and after by "the Lord King" by reason that the lands of John de Winton deceased were in his hands. Or once more in the Bishopric of Wykeham 1367 to 1404 an institution to the Rectory on account of an exchange with the parson of Everley in the diocese of Salisbury on the presentation of Edmund de Stonore and a Commission for the aforesaid exchange and admission to the Church at Penton on the presentation of the Lord King by reason that he held the custody of the

lands and heir of Edmund Stonore deceased. And also an Institution on the presentation of Ralph de Stonore.

| Date. | Patron. | Rector. |
|---|---|---|
| 1 May 1634 | Georgius Tarrant gen: hac vice p: adver: a Waltero Culpepper Mil: orig Patron ... ... | George Tarrant |
| 19 Feb 1635 | Anna Hay vid: et Thos Culpepper Mil: ... ... ... ... | Richard Russell |
| 23 Decr 1678 | Humphrey Norbourne Esqre Pollen arm: ... ... ... ... | Joseph Row |
| 8 May 1679 | J Pollen Esqre .. ... . | Henry Russell |
| 17 Decr 1706 | Edward Pollen Esqre | John Border |
| 28 Mar 1732 | Sir Philip Meadows ... ... | Henry Jacob |
| 26 April 1734 | Joshua Strother cl: ... . . | James Smith |
| 27 Septr 1736 | Joshua Strother cl: ... ... | George Strother |
| 29 Oct 1762 | Barbara Strother Spr. .. ... | George Woodward |
| 9 July 1790 | Edward Fulham ... . . . | Edward Fulham |
| 15 June 1832 | John Constable . . | Christopher Dodson |
| 1876 | ... ... ... ... ... | Thomas Hargraves |
| 1881 | ... ... ... ... | Meyrick Onslow Alison |
| 1886 | ... ... ... ... ... | Montague Pain |
| 30 May 1890 | Captn Francis Sutton | Robert Hawley Clutterbuck |

Bennett Brothers, Printers, Journal Office, Salisbury.

KING ALFRED'S COLLEGE
Library